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MONDAY, JULY 10, 1989/ZUL HAJ 7, 1409 AH

20 PAGES 150 FILS

Eid break 12th to 16th

KUWAIT, July 9, (KUNA): All government departments will close offices from next Wednesday until July 17, on the occasion of standing at Mount Arafat and Al Adha feast, the Civil Service Commission announced today. It said in a circular that government departments will resume work on Monday July 17.

Benazir vows to be out of N-race

LONDON, July 9, (KUNA): Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto pledged here today to keep her country out of a nuclear arms race.

She said Pakistan wanted to work alongside India in trying to keep the area free from the threat of nuclear proliferation.

Speaking on Breakfast Time of the commercial TV station, she went on "if one of the countries in the region detonates a device it will put tremendous pressure on other countries to follow suit."

"While it is true that countries can for the time being take a policy decision not to be party to proliferation, this does not mean that there has not been knowledge gained."

Therefore we in Pakistan would like to see a permanent solution to this. We would like to make our region free from the threat of nuclear proliferation and that is why we would like to work with India as our neighbour to prevent any pressures in the future," Benazir added.

She pledged that "Pakistan has not nor do we have any intention of putting together or making a bomb or taking it to the point where you can put it together."

Benazir is currently on a week-long visit to the UK which will be concluded this Wednesday.

During her stay, she held talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her senior ministers, covering Afghanistan, the situation in the Indian sub-continent, the Arab-Israeli dispute and bilateral matters.

(See Afghan ...Page 9)

Shaker in Damascus

DAMASCUS, July 9, (AP): Jordan's Prime Minister, Zeid Bin Shaker, arrived today for two days of talks with Syrian officials on boosting bilateral economic ties.

Bin Shaker was greeted on the tarmac at Damascus airport by Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zoubi and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa and then inspected an honour guard.

He said the visit "is to promote co-ordination and co-operation between the two countries and discuss issues of common interest."

Deportations up

MINISTRY of Interior has lately deported a number of expatriates for violating the country's laws and disturbing the peace.

The ministry is adopting a tough policy with persons who intentionally break the law and repeat violations. The new policy is also applicable to minor violations like traffic violations, physical fights, financial cheating and nuisance telephone calls, a local daily said.

Maid 'pushed' off 4th floor

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

AN Arab employer pushed an Indian maid from the fourth floor of a building in Fintas, critically injuring her, the maid alleges.

The 25-year-old maid was admitted to the hospital by the Fintas police on Saturday. A case of attempted suicide has been registered against her. She was first admitted at Al Adhan Hospital and later moved to the Al Razi Hospital.

The Indian maid, who came to Kuwait nine months ago, was not paid her salary of KD40 for the last four months. She was repeatedly assaulted and had no place to go.

Her husband's relatives in Kuwait had apparently brought her to Kuwait through a recruiting agency, run by an Egyptian, she said. She worked for 10 days in a shop in Farwaniya before being shifted to her present employer's home in Fintas.

On the day of the incident, she wanted her employers to send her back to her agent, so that she

could be repatriated to her home in India.

"I was beaten up again," she said. She began sobbing and told her employers: "I want to die, I'll drown myself in the sea," she told her employers. Apparently, her employers were furious with her and she claims they told her they would do her bidding.

"They told me to go to the balcony and before I knew what was happening, I was pushed over," she claimed. The woman broke several ribs and has sustained vertebral injuries.



Marcos supporters

About 300 supporters of deposed Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos, who is critically ill in a Hawaii hospital, chant Marcos long live during a rally in Manila, Philippines. Below Philippine President Corason Aquino accompanied by West Berlin's Mayor Walter Momper looks over the wall of East Berlin. (Reuter wirephotos)

US 'knows' Pan Am bombers

LONDON, July 9, (AP): US intelligence officials have said they know the names of four terrorists allegedly responsible for placing a bomb aboard the Pan Am flight which exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland last year killing all aboard, the Sunday Telegraph reported.

In a brief dispatch, which was not confirmed by officials in Britain, the newspaper said at least two of the four were believed to be in Scandinavia.

A total of 270 people were killed, including 11 on ground, when New York-bound Pan Am flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland. No one aboard

the Boeing 747 survived, and investigators said the blast was caused by a terrorist bomb, but no-one has been arrested and charged for the act.

"US intelligence officials say they know the names of four of the Lockerbie bombers and their whereabouts," the Sunday Telegraph said.

"One is a Palestinian awaiting trial in West Germany on explosives charges. A second, a Lebanese, died on the plane and two others are members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. They are believed to be in a Scandinavian country and officials hope for an early arrest."

Bashir forms 21-man cabinet

KHARTOUM, July 9, (KUNA): Sudan's ruling military junta today announced the formation of a 21-member cabinet, comprising Army generals and civilian ministers.

A decree issued by the Revolutionary Command Council, which assumed power in military coup late last month, said the council's chairman Gen. Omar Hassan Ahmed Al Bashir would serve as premier and defence minister.

The portfolio of Foreign Ministry was given to veteran diplomat Ali Ahmed Sahloul, who was holding the post of foreign affairs ministry's under-secretary in the toppled government of former Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi.

Sahloul served under Sudan's successive governments as his country's ambassador in several Arab and other capitals as well as chief of Sudan's diplomatic mission to the United Nations under former President Jisafar Nimeiri's regime, overthrown by a popular uprising backed by the Army in 1985.

The new cabinet includes four military generals, beside Gen. Al Bashir. Another four seats went to ministers from southern Sudan.

The vice-chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, Brigadier Ali Zubair Mohammed Saleh was appointed as deputy premier. Council member Brigadier Faisal Ali Abu Saleh gets the sensitive portfolio of interior minister.

Lieutenant Colonel Dr Al Tayeb Ibrahim was appointed cabinet affairs minister, while retired Major-General Engineer Mohammed Al Hadi Mamoun was named housing, construction and public utilities minister.

The southerners, Abdalla Deng Lowal, Natali Yanku Imbu, Peter Orath Edurad and Reverend George Kifa, were named ministers of guidance and orientation, local governments and regional co-ordination, relief and refugees affairs, and labour and social insurance respectively.

Ali Mohammed Shummo, the minister of culture and information during Nimeiri's rule, was reinstated minister of the same portfolio in the new government.

The Health Ministry was given to a veteran physician and a former health undersecretary Dr Shakir Al Nahhas. Other members were: Hassan Ismail Al Balli, justice minister and attorney general; Dr Sayed Ali Zaki, finance and planning; Prof. Ahmed Ali, agriculture and natural resources; Dr Yaqoub Abu Shora, irrigation; Mahgoub Al Badawi Mohammed, education and instruction; Engineer Dr Mohammed Omar Abdalla, industry; Engineer Abdelmoniem Khojali, energy and mining; Ali Ahmed Ibrahim, transport and communications.

(See Page 9)

Boris Becker, Steffi Graf champions



Navratilova: agony of defeat



Graf: joy of victory

Labour may leave Likud

Vote set for today

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 9, (Agencies): Finance Minister Shimon Peres said his left-leaning Labour Party was expected to vote tomorrow on whether to pull out of a coalition with the right-wing Likud bloc, a move that could bring down the government and force in new elections.

Peres, Labour's chairman, refused to tell reporters after today's cabinet meeting how he would vote when the party's 120-member leadership bureau convened tomorrow to debate the issue.

Angered by hardline positions adopted by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on peace negotiations, most of Labour's 11 cabinet ministers have voiced support for abandoning the coalition government formed after elections eight months ago.

But some senior Labour figures said Shamir, who heads the rival Likud, should be given more time to prove the viability of his peace plan.

By a vote of 20-6 in May, the coalition cabinet has endorsed Shamir's proposal for elections to choose Palestinian representatives to negotiate a temporary autonomy scheme for the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On July 5, however, Likud hawks sought to impose conditions on the plan and forced Shamir to adopt positions which critics say could cripple his room to manoeuvre and end chances for Palestinian acceptance.

In a toughly worded speech, Shamir ruled out a Palestinian state and said balloting could not be held unless there was an end to the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Shamir contended the positions were a reiteration of long-standing party policy. As such, they were not formally part of the peace plan and therefore not an obstacle to negotiations.

Seeking to avoid a rift in the coalition, Shamir warned Labour leaders against leaving the 26-member cabinet, saying on Israeli Radio, "they will pay for it in our coming political confrontation."

In Amman, Foreign Minister Marwan Kassem today urged Palestinians to accept Israel's call for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but only under suitable conditions.

Two Palestinians were reported shot and killed by Israeli troops today during a general strike marking 19 months of the Arab uprising, and police dispersed a crowd of Israelis stoning Arab cars.

Police on horseback charged the stone-throwing Israelis, mostly orthodox Jews in black hats and long coats, when rioting erupted after the funeral in Jerusalem of Moshe Shapiro, 74, one of the 14 people killed in the bus incident.

The crowd was chanting "death to Arabs." Police spokesman said 11 Israelis were arrested.

Israeli officials criticised three days of anti-Arab violence, which killed one Palestinian and wounded nine others, following the attack on Thursday by an Arab who grabbed the steering wheel of a public bus and plunged the vehicle into a 200-foot ravine.

(See US fails to ...Page 9)



During the funeral of one of the victims of the bus crash, Israeli police on Sunday arrested 11 demonstrators. (Reuter wirephoto)

McCarthy's mother dies Prayers ignored

CAMBRIDGE, England, July 9, (AP): The mother of British journalist John McCarthy died last night, her final request to see her son again ignored by those holding him hostage in Lebanon.

Sheila McCarthy, 66, died of cancer with her husband, Patrick, at her bedside, Addenbrookes Hospital said in a statement.

Her 32-year-old son, a journalist for the London-based world-wide television news, was kidnapped by gunmen in Beirut on April 17, 1986, while on his way to the airport to return to London.

Mrs McCarthy issued a statement through her doctor on June 21, appealing to her son's abductors to release him before she died. Her plea received no response.

"It would be the kindest of humanitarian gestures on the part of those holding John McCarthy to release him in the final moments of his mother's life," said Terence Wheeler, Mrs McCarthy's personal doctor.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said after learning of Mrs McCarthy's death: "It is a reminder to us all of the human tragedy of the kidnapping and the sheer heartlessness of the kidnappers who ignored the family's appeal to let Mrs McCarthy see her son again before she died."

Premadasa made letters public

India displeased

NEW DELHI, July 9, (AP): The government today expressed its displeasure with the Sri Lankan President for releasing a series of letters that accused India of interfering in the internal affairs of the war-torn island nation.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa on Friday made public his correspondence to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on the withdrawal of an estimated 45,000 Indian peacekeeping troops from Sri Lanka.

The full text of the letters and telex messages sent during June were published by several major Indian newspapers.

"Making letters public is not our normal way of conducting diplomacy. We have nothing more to say on the subject," Foreign Ministry spokesman Aftab Seth told reporters.

The correspondence between the two leaders followed Premadasa's demand last month that India pull its troops out by July 29, the second anniversary of a peace accord that brought Indian troops to Sri Lanka to help quell a rebellion by militants

Seth also said India is willing to send an envoy to Sri Lanka to discuss the issue.

Jackson tours Palestinian hospital

CAIRO, Egypt, July 9, (AP): American civil rights leader Jesse Jackson visited a Palestinian hospital today, shook hands with injured intifadah children and said the new generation must be spared the possibility of premature death.

Jackson, in Cairo since Wednesday to attend a meeting of the US National Council of Negro Women, met with President Hosni Mubarak on Saturday.

Arriving in an official motorcade at the hospital of the Palestine Red Crescent Society, Jackson was greeted by two children carrying flowers and by scores of patients leaning out of windows overlooking the

street. He was accompanied on a round of some wards and rooms by Fat'h'y Arafat, head of the society and a brother of Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"One of the reasons of the visit of this hospital is to try to lift the spirits of the hurt and the injured," Jackson told reporters and an audience of about 20 doctors, nurses and hospital administrators.

He said most of the media focus concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict was on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and PLO leader Arafat. "There is almost no focus on the children, the maimed, the injured."

"Somehow, the heart must speak to the heart. The next generation of children must be spared of looking forward to premature death by injury because of this war and that's why we put some focus on this hospital."

During his tour of a ward occupied by four Palestinians injured by Israeli Army bullets in the intifadah, or uprising, Jackson bent down and shook hands with Osama Abu Mustafa, 12 and Akram Ashour, 18 as they sat in their wheel-chairs and smiled.

Both from the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, they said they were shot in the back while throwing stones at Israeli soldiers.



Jackson (left) was accompanied by Fat'h'y Arafat during his visit yesterday to a Palestinian hospital in Cairo. (Reuter wirephoto)

21 injured in Japanese earthquakes

TOKYO, July 9, (UPI): Two strong earthquakes, one measuring 5.5 on the Richter Scale, rocked the hot spring-studded Izu peninsula southwest of Tokyo a minute apart today, slightly injuring 21 people, damaging 10 homes and triggering fears of a long predicted great quake in the region, officials said.

Police in the town of Ito, which felt the brunt of the damage, said most of the injuries were caused by tumbling household furnishings, including television sets, flying dishes and toppled family Buddhist

altars.

They said the 17 injured adults and four children were treated at hospitals for minor injuries and later released.

Officials confirmed the twin quakes damaged 10 homes, opened cracks in 10 roads, ruptured two gas pipelines, triggered 18 small landslides, and briefly halted high-speed bullet trains, affecting tens of thousands of passengers.

The scenic, mountainous peninsula has been hit by a swarm of more than 19,000 small quakes in the past 10 days — 423 of

these were of an such an intensity they could be felt by humans.

The wave of thousands of mostly minor quakes is an annual summer occurrence in the region, but seismologists said this year's swarm is already the largest on record and is likely to continue.

The phenomenon has hurt the local tourist industry. The numerous hot spring resort on the peninsula reported that 25,000 people, who seemed to prefer to stay on steadier ground, have cancelled reservations in the past week.

The National Meteorological Agency in Tokyo said the first of the latest quakes struck at 10.09 EDT and was centred 6 miles (10 km) under the Pacific seabed off the eastern coast of the quake-battered peninsula.

The agency said it was unable to accurately measure the intensity of the second tremor, which occurred 57 seconds later, but believed it was of a similar magnitude.

Seismologists said they failed to produce a tsunami or tidal wave.

Union offices raided

SEOUL, South Korea, July 9, (AP): Police said today that they have detained 53 teachers and seized thousands of leaflets following overnight raids on the offices of a banned teachers union.

Police said 16 offices of the National Teachers Union in Seoul and other cities were raided last night and early today after the union defied a ban and decided to push ahead with plans to hold an unauthorized rally today in Seoul.

Union leaders said about 20,000 of South Korea's 300,000 primary and secondary school teachers were ready to take part in the rally for educational reform.

Police said all teachers trying to take part in the rally would be arrested and their names sent to education authorities for discipline.

Education authorities have outlawed the union. Dissidents and radical students have supported the pro-union teachers.

All teachers affiliated with the union have been ordered to stop their pro-union movement or face punishment. So far this year, about 130 teachers have been charged, disciplined or dismissed.

Education authorities charges that leftist teachers are using the union to spread revolutionary ideas. The union has organized at least 446 local chapters nationwide.



South Korean teachers, linking arms, lie down on their backs to protest police stopping their rally in Seoul on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Chanting anti-imperialist slogans, North Korean women participate in the closing ceremony Saturday evening of the World Festival of Youth and Students in Pyongyang's giant stadium. Some 20,000 foreigners took part in the communist-dominated convocation which North Korea used as a forum to oppose US forces based in South Korea. (Reuters wirephoto)

Chinese assail Western nations

BEIJING, July 9, (UPI): The Chinese government launched one of its harshest attacks on the United States and other Western nations today, accusing them of harbouring a "wild ambition" to subvert communism and using political and economic weapons to reach that goal.

The Communist Party newspaper People's Daily, in a lengthy editorial dripping with invective, assailed the United States and "anti-communist international capitalists" for trying to subvert socialism in China.

The editorial was one of the toughest in a series of attacks on the United States and other Western governments for their criticism of China since the Army's bloody suppression June 3 of the democracy movement and the ensuing nation-wide crackdown on dissent.

The People's Daily charged that, having failed to dislodge communism through overt subversion and armed attacks in the 1950s, the foreign forces had shifted to a tactic it called "peaceful evolution."

This tactic, it said, has two components: using economic aid and technology transfer as a lure and then as a lever to exert pressure on Chinese policy, and using "spiritual weapons" such as Western political concepts.

Position Those "spiritual weapons" would be used to support the position "of a very small handful of people within the country to collapse the internal socialist system," it said.

The cutoff of US military cooperation with China, announced after the June 3 violence, was evidence of the first component, while US support for dissidents and Voice of America broadcasts are proof of the second, the editorial said.

"The interference in China's internal political affairs by the US government reveals it supports the wild ambition to carry out a peaceful evolution in China," it said.

The editorial claimed Chinese dissidents and leaders of the student protest movement were being used to subvert the Chinese system, and gave as examples leading dissident, Fang Lizhi, and two key student leaders — Wang Dan and Liu Xiaobo.

Fang and his wife have taken refuge in the US embassy while the student leaders are believed to be under arrest.

Meanwhile, a month after most of Beijing's foreign community fled the capital, the guns have quieted and business people are trickling back, but they say it's not business as usual.

"We're fully staffed, but not optimistic. In fact, we're pessimistic," said the president of an American company who, like most others, asked that her name not be used.

Her firm, with a staff of eight in Beijing, has been an agent for American manufacturers of medical, scientific and mining equipment for nearly a decade.

A representative for an American company with an 18-year history of doing business in China returned from the United States last week and said contact with Chinese partners has been limited.

Appeal for daughter

BANGKOK, July 9, (UPI): A Vietnamese family living in the United States today pleaded for the return of a daughter snatched five years ago by pirates in the Gulf of Thailand.

A report in the Bangkok Post said Tang Bao Can, 44, and his wife Thai Thi Loan, 45, have ordered a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the return of Tang Bich Hang, now 18 years old.

The couple, who currently live in California, offered a reward of \$2,500 just for proof that their daughter was still alive.

The newspaper said Hang was abducted from a Vietnamese refugee boat on Oct. 26, 1984 by suspected Thai pirates, who prey on ships to rob them.

Mayor criticizes rights violation

Aquino arrives in W. Germany

BONN, July 9, (AP): President Corazon Aquino arrived today in West Germany to start a three-nation tour to encourage a greater European role in development of the Philippines.

In her first meeting with a West German politician, however, Aquino heard criticism of alleged human rights violations in her country.

The 56-year-old President reviewed an honour guard after her flight landed at 8:15 am (0615 GMT). Her weeklong European tour will also take her to France and Belgium.

In a pre-arranged move, the Boeing 747 of the Philippines Airlines carrying Aquino and her delegation circled over the Bonn-Cologne airport for about 30 minutes before landing.

The two sides agreed to delay the landing so that residents living in the vicinity of the airport would not be woken up too early on this morning by the gun salute at the welcoming ceremony.

Aquino was welcomed by Klaus Blech, President Richard von Weizsäcker's chief of staff. She then boarded a special plane that took her to West Berlin for a brief visit.

In West Berlin, Aquino held talks with Mayor Walter Momper, visited the old Reichstag building near the Berlin Wall and signed the city's Golden Book.

The mayor in remarks to Aquino, sharply criticized the human rights situation in Philippines.

"It would not be honest to ignore the fact that many people in this city are worried about the continuing — the continuously re-occurring violations of human rights in the Philippines, particularly in the form of arbitrary arrests, killings and disappearances of people, as well as torture," Momper said.

He admitted Aquino's government had tried to improve the situation, but said that "despite your good intentions and your efforts in some areas, this has not led to a thorough and lasting healing of the wounds left by the Marcos dictatorship."

In a brief speech, Aquino praised the "beauty and power" of the city but did not respond to the charges.

In the afternoon, Aquino was to travel to the city of Aachen for a meeting with representatives of West Germany's Philippine community and to attend mass at the Aachen cathedral.

Aquino's talks with West German leaders will begin tomorrow, when she is scheduled to meet with President Weizsäcker and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Aquino will be seeking greater European trade and investment to help her troubled nation overcome problems of poverty, communist insurgency and a \$28-billion foreign debt, according to Philippine officials.

She will also try to allay concern in Europe that she has not fulfilled her promise to protect human rights made when she was swept to power in the uprising that toppled Ferdinand Marcos' authoritarian administration three years ago.

Military Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa placed the armed forces of the Philippines on nationwide alert, yesterday.



Protesters clash

Bihari Muslims protesting against delay in their repatriation to Pakistan clash with Bangladesh police in Dhaka today. Witnesses said police stopped about 2,000 Biharis at various city points but another 500 stole their way to the Pakistan embassy trying to hand over a memorandum to Pakistani ambassador. (Reuters wirephoto)

Trans-Korea peace march proposed

TOKYO, July 9, (UPI): A South Korean dissident, who defied her government by joining a North Korean youth festival, announced in Pyongyang today plans for an international trans-Korea peace march to press for reunification of the divided peninsula, the Kyodo news service reported.

The Japanese news service said Rim Su Gyong, a 20-year-old French major at Hankuk University in Seoul, disclosed the formation of a committee to prepare for the march at a news conference in the North Korean capital.

"She said some 200 people from about 40 countries, including Japan, will join with

North Korean students and youths to participate in the march, which will start at Mt Paekdu (in North Korea) July 20 and arrive at the truce border village of Panmunjom on July 27," Kyodo said.

"At that time, demonstrations are planned to be staged in Japan, the United States, India and other countries, as well as in South Korea, to support the international march."

"The US rally is expected to collect 100,000 signatures backing the international peace march to be presented to President George Bush and Congress," Kyodo quoted Gyong as saying.

Gyong, who was given red-carpet treat-

ment by North Korea during her unauthorized visit, also expressed her "resolve to risk arrest by authorities on her return home," the news agency said.

The Seoul government has reportedly issued an arrest warrant for Gyong under its National Security Act.

The 13th World Festival of Youth and Students ended in the North Korean capital yesterday, drawing "delegates of 180 countries" and 60 international and regional organisations, the North Korean central news agency said in a dispatch monitored in Tokyo.



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Gambling becoming the addiction of choice

NEW YORK, July 9, (AP): While baseball star Pete Rose's betting makes headlines, millions of less prominent lives are afflicted by an addiction to gambling that some experts fear may become more widespread.

"We are viewing compulsive gambling as the mental health epidemic of the 1990s," declares Valerie Lorenz, executive director of the National Centre for Pathological Gambling in Baltimore.

Adds Sirgy Sanger, president of the National Council on Compulsive Gambling in New York, "I think we're possibly headed into a decade in which gambling will be the addiction of choice" among young people.

It may be seen as a readily available and attractive alternative if alcohol and drugs become less popular, he says.

Almost \$253 billion was bet in the United States last year, legally and illegally, according to the magazine Gambling And Wagering Business. Table games such as roulette and baccarat drew \$126 billion, and slot machines about \$37 billion. State-run lotteries and pari-mutuel events such as horse racing each took in more than \$17 billion, the magazine says.

The vast majority of gamblers are not addicted to betting. But perhaps three per cent of American adults, which comes to about five million people, are hooked. So

are a significant percentage of high school students, some studies suggest.

Fifteen years ago, the compulsive gambler was typically a middle-aged white businessman, Lorenz said, but now treatment programmes see people in their teens and early 20s, deeply in debt, suicidal and threatened by bookies.

She said she expects compulsive gambling to grow as more states adopt lotteries and other games of chance to raise revenue, promoting the idea of gambling and making it easier for susceptible people to become hooked.

Already, "we are seeing an increase in all forms of gambling," Lorenz said. Some 15

per cent of calls to her organisation's hotline are from people who say they are hooked on lotteries, she said, while "six years ago, I never heard of a lottery addict."

But J. Blaine Lewis Jr., president of the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries, said experts have told him that lotteries do not interest most compulsive gamblers. The addicts want faster action, such as casino games, and games of perceived skill rather than pure chance, Lewis said.

While lotteries may promote the idea of gambling, "it's a long step to say then that that gets people to be compulsive gamblers," Lewis said.

Thugs terrorise Soviet streets

MOSCOW, July 9, (Agencies): Police are losing the fight against organised crime in Moscow, where shotgun-slashing racketeers extort money from restaurants, rob the rich and carouse with prostitutes, a Soviet newspaper said yesterday.

The city depicted in an expose in the weekly Moscow News bears more resemblance to Al Capone's Chicago of the 1920s than to dictator Josef Stalin's secure capital of the same era.

The newspaper said authorities recorded 62 crimes involving firearms in the first five months of this year—a 326 per cent increase over the figure of 19 for the same period in 1988.

A former waiter interviewed in the article said he recently quit his job at Moscow's Sevastopol Restaurant because it was taken over by mafiosi and small-time thugs.

"They've been coming to the restaurant for a long time, but in the last two years they've crowded out all other customers," he said. "They order expensive things like brandy, champagne and caviar, and they act brazenly. A waiter's knees start shaking when he sees them at his table. Several bosses with their bodyguards and chauffeurs."

"The guards don't drink, while the bosses go wild. They bring foreign currency and diamonds from the downtown hotels, and they play cards for enormous stakes. They make some of their business deals right at the table. Small-time racketeers and swindlers come there to report. They get new assignments and leave."

The waiter, identified only as Alexei N., said the mafiosi extorted large sums of money from the restaurant workers.

"We waiters were each forced to pay at least \$230 a month," he said. "Our headwaiter said we had to or our lives would be hell. Fights break out every night. They pull out their guns to make everyone fear and respect them. I saw one thing thrust at a musician's mouth and demand money."

Deputy Interior Minister Pyotr Bogdanov said Soviet police need more legal protections and should be given greater autonomy on the street.

"In the United States, you can't lay a finger on a policeman because he has the right to retaliate severely," Bogdanov said. "Here they shoot at a cop and he has to figure out whether firing back is legal or not. One man who killed a policeman recently got only four years in jail."

The official Tass news agency said Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin told a crime conference yesterday that last year 260 Soviet policemen were killed, 80 more than in 1987 or an increase of 44 per cent.

Criminologist Alexander Ratinov blamed the increase in violent crime on "the erosion of morals, the cynicism, that became widespread during the stagnation period" under the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

The official Izvestia government newspaper recently reported that the Soviet crime rate during the first five months of this year rose by nearly one-third over the same period in 1988, with steep increases in the number of murders, rapes and assaults.

The Soviet Union has an average of six murders a day, or some 2,200 a year, the daily Socialist Industry reported yesterday.

Anastoy Logvinov, head of the Interior Ministry's Department for the Protection of Public Order, was quoted by the newspaper as saying there was also an average of five rapes and 260 robberies every day.

The others carried on only to be dogged by tragedy again with the death of bassist Oakley in an accident three blocks from where Duane had died a year earlier.

This was followed by the release of the Allman Brothers' most successful album "Brothers and Sisters" which includes the band's biggest single hit "Ramblin' Man."

roll of the 1970s.

The Allman Brothers were stunned by the death of Duane in a motorcycle accident near the band's base in Macon, Georgia, in October 1971.

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Nature losing in Ivory Coast

ABIDJAN, July 9, (Reuters): Michelle Cotte flew her small plane above a herd of about 20 forest elephants feeding in a palm plantation near the ocean in Ivory Coast.

"The only reason these elephants survive is because poachers can't get to them," said Cotte, a bush pilot.

But poachers could soon have access to them. Ivory Coast's Public Works Department plans to build a \$144 million road along the coast.

It is the age-old battle of progress versus nature. And in Ivory Coast and most of West Africa, nature — in the form of her colossal offspring the elephant — is losing.

Ivory Coast, which took its name and its national symbol from its once vast elephant herds, had 100,000 remaining in 1950. That number had dwindled to 1,500, according to figures published recently in the official daily *Fraternite* Matin.

A country which once exported ivory has been reduced to importing elephants — six of them — from South Africa for a new game park being built near the inland capital Yamoussoukro.

Environmentalists say the coastal road will make the devastation worse by cutting a path into previously inaccessible forest which protected the elephants.

"It is a matter of only a few years before Ivory Coast will have no elephants in the wild," said one conservation source who asked not to be named.

That is the case in much of West Africa, where Togo, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Benin and Ghana count elephant populations in the hundreds or fewer instead of the thousands which once roamed the region.

Ivory Coast's road has alarmed environmentalists and, according to conservation sources, could become a cause for conservation groups. "We are keeping a close eye on what Ivory Coast does," one source said.

The money for the project came from the African Development Bank which, after approving it, belatedly woke up to the implications and is demanding an environmental assessment.

"Of course this is something conservationists are concerned about," said Donald Sherik, the Abidjan-based bank's American director who fought for additional money for the study.

Conservationists think steps can be taken to mitigate the damage, either by moving the route inland or posting guards.



Last respects

Bophuthatswana police pay last respects to comrades killed in a clash with villagers a week ago. Nine police and two civilians died in the flight over Pretoria's decision to incorporate Leeuwarden into the tribal state created under apartheid. (Reuters wirephoto)

Meeting 'positive'

London hails Mandela visit

LONDON, July 9, (Agencies): Britain has welcomed the news of last Wednesday's "unprecedented historic" meeting between President P.W. Botha of South Africa and jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

A British government spokesman said late last night that London had been kept fully informed about the meeting, which he described as a "very positive step."

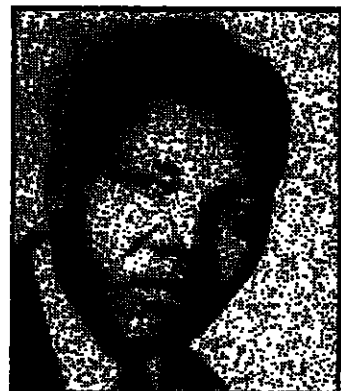
British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has consistently said Mandela's release is merely one of the conditions which must be fulfilled before she would even contemplate a visit to Pretoria herself.

South Africa's Justice Minister Kibie Coetsee announced only yesterday that Mandela, who is serving life imprisonment, paid a "courtesy visit" to the president's official residence in the centre of Cape Town.

The minister said no policy matters were dealt with and no negotiations were conducted, but the two men "availed themselves of the opportunity to confirm their support for peaceful development in South Africa."

The announcement fuelled speculation that the leader of the banned African National Congress will be released soon, but several informed Western diplomats dispute this, according to the British media.

They believed that the apartheid regime planned to release several of Mandela's colleagues, but not Mandela in the near



Mandela: still imprisoned

future. Mandela's lawyer, Ismail Ayob, visited the African National Congress leader earlier yesterday, but said Mandela did not mention the meeting.

The lawyer dismissed speculation about a possible release.

"I don't think it would mean anything like that unless a statement was made to that effect," he said. "I have no idea why the meeting took place. It could be Mr Botha believes there is some benefit to him or the national party or he may have wanted to hear Mr Mandela's views."

South African Foreign Minister P.W. Botha, who has borne the brunt of foreign pressure for Mandela's release, issued an Afrikaans-language statement praising the move.

Nujoma set for return to Namibia

CAIRO, July 9, (UPI): The leader of the South West Africa People's Organisation, Sam Nujoma, said yesterday he is ready to return to Namibia and is confident his people will vote for his group in the UN-sponsored elections in November.

Shortly after his arrival in Cairo from Libya, Nujoma met visiting US civil rights activist Jesse Jackson, who yesterday met for 90 minutes with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"After 29 years in exile, it is time to celebrate," Nujoma noted after he and Jackson embraced each other at the Semiramis International Hotel where Jackson is staying and holding a banquet in honour of Nujoma.

Nujoma, who was to meet Mubarak today, was introduced as "President of Namibia," by US Ambassador to Cairo Frank Wisner.

"My colleagues and I are ready to go back to Namibia to carry out the tasks of mobilizing politically the Namibian people, unite them and rally them behind SWAPO, and call on them to vote for SWAPO when the elections will take place in Namibia on Nov 1. Under the control of the United Nations," Nujoma told reporters.

"We are ready now to participate in free and democratic elections," Nujoma said. "I have every trust and confidence that the Namibian people will find it easy to vote for SWAPO in power when the elections take place," Nujoma said.

Asked if he was confident the November elections would lead to independence for Namibia, Nujoma said that armed liberation struggle led by his group in Namibia has compelled the South African government to accept a negotiated settlement.

The US sponsored tripartite agreement signed by South Africa, Cuba and Angola meant "peace for Angola and independence of Namibia," Nujoma said.

Nujoma said the bilateral ceasefire agreement signed by his group and South Africa paved the road for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435 which calls for holding free and democratic elections in Namibia.

Nujoma said SWAPO has entered a new phase in its struggle after "the guns have been silenced" for a peaceful settlement. Nujoma also said that he had held "fraternal talks" with the leaders of Algeria, Libya and Tunisia.

"President Chadli Benjedid (of Algeria) has given me his special aircraft which has brought me to Cairo," Nujoma said.

A SWAPO leader said yesterday that the guerrilla movement does not condone torture, and apologized to former SWAPO prisoners who have said they were mistreated.

Theo-Ben Gurirah, an executive member of SWAPO, responded at a rally to charges made by some of those who had been detained by SWAPO during its war to end South African control of Namibia.

Police in the Kansas City suburb of Overland Park said jewellery and other belongings of at least one of the missing women were recovered at the airport from a car stolen in Missouri that Grissom allegedly drove to Texas.

Overland Park police began seeking Grissom, an avid bodybuilder, on June 27 in connection with the disappearance of 24-year-old Joan Butler, who was reported missing June 16.

Kansas investigators also said Grissom planned a date with Terri Maness, 25, of Wichita on June 7, the night she was strangled

Greek coalition gets vote of confidence

Papandreou under fire

ATHENS, Greece, July 9, (AP): Premier Tzannis Tzannetakis' conservative-communist coalition won a vote of confidence from parliament early today and a mandate to cleanse scandal-ridden Greek politics.

The coalition, composed of the conservative New Democracy Party and the communist-dominated coalition of the Left and Progress, has pledged it would remain in office for three months and call general elections in October.

The government said its prescribed purpose is to cleanse Greek political life and investigate former officials of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) accused of involvement in banking, financial and agricultural scandals. PASOK came in a distant second to the conservatives in the June 18 election.

New Democracy won 145 seats, six short of an absolute majority in the 300-member unicameral parliament, while PASOK got 125 places.

The coalition took 28 seats with the remaining two places won by an independent and a small conservative group.

The three-day debate on the government's policy started Thursday and ended yesterday at midnight (2100 GMT).

The government received 174 votes while 124 deputies voted against it. Absent from the roll call balloting was former premier Andreas Papandreou, who is recuperating at home after spending two weeks in a hospital for pneumonia and kidney problems. One member of the coalition declined to vote.

In outlining his government's role, Tzannetakis, a member of New Democracy, said that sensitive national issues including negotiations for a new agreement on US military bases would be frozen. The new government resulting from the October elections would have to resume the talks, he said.

Negotiations between Greece and the United States to determine the fate of the four US bases here were suspended in May. The agreement expired last December but a clause in the accord gives the United States 17 months to either dismantle its installations or negotiate a new agreement.

In a boisterous parliament session Friday, New Democracy proposed that six members of PASOK, including Papandreou, be investigated for alleged involvement in major scandals during their eight years in office. The proposal called for putting into motion a law on the responsibility of ministers in alleged criminal activities committed in the performance of their duties.

Papandreou, and his former ministers, Agapiemon Koutsogiorgas, George Petros, Dimitris Tsoulas and Panayiotis Roumeliotis, are accused of involvement in the \$200 million Bank of Crete embezzlement scandal. Ex-finance undersecretary Nicholas Athanasopoulos was accused of alleged involvement in an agricultural scandal dealing with the European Economic Community. All have denied any wrongdoing.

Former Bank of Crete chairman Giorgos Koskotas is in a US jail awaiting an extradition hearing. He alleged that most of the missing funds from his bank were pocketed by Papandreou and top PASOK officials.

Yannis Alevras, the former parliament speaker and present PASOK spokesman, said the New Democracy proposals were aimed at discrediting Papandreou and the party.

In a written statement, the 70-year-old Papandreou said he was denouncing to the Greek people "a new attempt to politically execute me."

He charged the coalition government with "violating elementary political and human rights by shamelessly trying, without any evidence, to adopt the months-long lies of the concerted mud stirring and libelous reports, under the mantle of parliament." He said the "morally rotten forged accusations will collapse."

The complicated parliamentary procedure to refer accused former Socialist officials to a special civil court consisting of supreme court judges could take months. If this parliament is unable to complete the procedure, the newly elected one can continue.

The confidence vote, required by the constitution, was the last procedural hurdle before the coalition could start work on lifting immunity and prosecuting former Socialist ministers.

During the debate, the New Democracy Party listed four areas it wanted investigated: a major bank embezzlement scandal, commissions on arms sales, government wire-tapping and illegal grain sales. Its communist partners quickly agreed.



Tzannetakis asks members of scandal-hit Socialist Party, driven from power after eight years in recent elections, to stop interrupting as he addresses the Greek Parliament for the first time on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Papandreou accompanied by his girlfriend Dimitra Liani leave Athens' General Hospital on Wednesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mandate to form new govt

Andreotti gets job

ROME, July 9, (AP): Italy's president today gave Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti a mandate to create Italy's 49th postwar government, and the five-time premier appeared capable of forming a coalition with ease.

Italy has been without a government since May 19, when premier Ciriaco De Mita resigned amid criticism of his leadership from the No. 2 party in the governing coalition, the Socialists.

After President Francesco Cossiga summoned him this morning to receive the mandate, Andreotti said he immediately would begin trying to form a government. However, he said his task might be delayed by preparations for the annual meeting of the seven major industrialized nations to be held in Paris this week.

Andreotti, like De Mita, belongs to the Christian Democrats Party which has dominated Italian politics since World War II. The De Mita coalition apparently fell because of power jockeying by the Socialists, led by popular former premier Bettino Craxi.

Craxi, who blocked his rival De Mita's efforts to revive his coalition, pledged he would not oppose Andreotti, newspapers reported. Craxi and Andreotti have worked closely in several governments.

An Andreotti government would likely ensure strong continuity of policy. In fact, the editor of Rome's daily *La Repubblica*, Eugenio Scalfari, noted in a front-page editorial that the 70-year-old premier-designate and the powerful leader of the Christian Democrats, Arnaldo Forlani, now held the same positions they did 17 years ago.

Retina re-attached

Nun in stable condition

HOUSTON, July 9, (UPI): Doctors yesterday re-attached the retina of an elderly nun shot in the head last month in El Salvador, but they were unsure whether she would regain significant vision in her left eye.

Mary Stanislaus Mackey was in stable condition at St Joseph Hospital late yesterday afternoon following three hours of surgery, said hospital spokeswoman Ellen Durkel.

Ophthalmologist John K. McGee, who performed the operation on the 72-year-old nun, said he will not know the extent of vision in her left eye for several weeks.

"The surgery went well," McGee said. "She's going to retain sight, we hope. Due to other problems with the eye bleeding from the injury, the visual prognosis is guarded."

Mackey had a perception of light in her left eye before the operation, McGee said. Her right eye was not affected by the shooting.

Her left eye was cut June 21 when she was hit by a bullet fragment in El Salvador. She was shot in a possible robbery attempt as she and two other nuns were driving out of the capital on San Salvador.

Suspect in woman's slaying fights extradition

DALLAS, Texas, July 9, (AP): An itinerant painter sought for questioning in the killing of a Kansas woman and the disappearance of three other women has decided to fight extradition, authorities said yesterday.

Richard Grissom Jr., 28, was captured on Friday by police and FBI agents at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, after an anonymous tipster told authorities Grissom would be meeting an arriving passenger.

Police in the Kansas City suburb of Overland Park said jewellery and other belongings of at least one of the missing women were recovered at the airport from a car stolen in Missouri that Grissom allegedly drove to Texas.

Overland Park police began seeking Grissom, an avid bodybuilder, on June 27 in connection with the disappearance of 24-year-old Joan Butler, who was reported missing June 16.

Kansas investigators also said Grissom planned a date with Terri Maness, 25, of Wichita on June 7, the night she was strangled

and stabbed repeatedly in her home.

Police also want to question him about the disappearance of room-mates Theresa J. Brown and Christine A. Rusch, both 22, of Lenexa, Kansas, Keller said. He was seen June 24 at a party given by the women, who were reported missing June 26.

"We found items linking the two women to him," Keller said. "Credit cards and jewellery identified as belonging to one of the Lenexa women were found in his car."

Police arrest abortion activists

WASHINGTON, July 9, (UPI): Police arrested hundreds of abortion rights activists and opponents who jeered at one another yesterday in scattered demonstrations across the United States.

Of the more than 3,000 demonstrators, police reported 61 arrests in Chicago, 58 in Milwaukee, 50 in Denver, 41 in Dallas and 27 in Miami. No arrests were reported from demonstrations in Brookline, Massachusetts, and suburban Los Angeles.

"Pro-choice people are starting to fight. It's like waking a sleeping giant," said Cindy Tetreau, director of the Affiliated Medical Services Abortion Clinic, one of two targets of protest in Milwaukee where about 400 people on both sides gathered.

The demonstrations came in the wake of Monday's Supreme Court ruling in Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services, which opened the way for states to restrict abortion if they choose.

Also yesterday, Newsweek magazine released a poll showing 53 per cent of Americans surveyed object to Monday's ruling on abortion, while 37 per cent support it. The poll also showed that 52 per cent believe new laws restricting abortion will be passed in their state as a result of the ruling.

A wide margin, 75 per cent to 19 per cent, also believed that more unmarried teenagers are likely to become pregnant if new laws restricting abortion are passed. Those surveyed also feared that such new laws will lead to more deaths caused by illegal abortions, 72-21, more limited access to safe abortions for poor women, 69-22, and more mistreated children, 63-27.

The Gallup Organisation interviewed 751 adults on July 6 and 7 for the poll, which had a margin of error of plus or minus four percentage points.

Anti-abortion protesters in Milwaukee as well as in southern California were greeted by abortion rights activists who had already staked out clinic doors early yesterday.

In Tustin, Calif., south of Los Angeles, nearly 1,000 demonstrators on both sides of the issue converged on women's medical clinic yesterday morning, but police said no violence as reported.

When the first wave of about 100 anti-abortion protesters showed up at the clinic in the Santa Ana-Tustin medical pavilion by 8 a.m., several hundred abortion rights activists were braced for their arrival.

As the morning progressed, however, acting police chief Fred Wakefield said the numbers swelled to nearly 1,000, the sides evenly split.

In Chicago, some 200 members of Rescue Chicago converged on Urban Health Service, Ltd., as did some 40 people supporting a woman's right to abortion.

Most of those arrested on charges of mob action and resisting arrest were members of Rescue Chicago, which blocked the entrance to the abortion clinic.

Teenager impaled

NEW YORK, July 9, (AP): A 15-year-old boy who slipped while climbing a fence and became impaled by his neck on an iron spike was hospitalised in serious condition, officials said.

The spike entered Julio Castillo's neck and came out his mouth, police and fire officials said yesterday. Rescue workers were forced to prop him up while they cut a section from the fence.

"The fence had to go with him to the emergency room," said fire department Capt. James Rogers, who helped with the rescue.

Once at the city hospital centre, fire department rescue workers scrubbed up and worked with the doctors to remove the spike from the boy's mouth, Rogers said. The spike just missed Castillo's jugular vein.

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Bush hopes to mend decades of division

US President flies to Europe

WASHINGTON, July 9, (AP): President George Bush set out today on a journey to Poland and Hungary, saying Europe "now dreams of being whole and free" after four decades of division.

In a departure ceremony at Andrews Air Force Base, Bush said, "My visit underscores the growing importance our nation sees in the changing face of Central Europe."

Trying to encourage political and economic freedom in communist Europe, Bush was flying first to Warsaw for a two-day stop, where he will meet with government leaders and address the parliament. In the

wake of recent elections, nearly half of the nation's lawmakers are members of the once-banned Solidarity Union.

Meeting with reporters, Bush described the diplomatic situation "as a little delicate". He said he wanted to avoid an appearance of trying to put Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev "in a box by throwing strains on the Warsaw Pact."

But, he added, "I'm not going to back off my principles just because it might offend Mr Gorbachev. I will give my aspirations for a Europe whole and free. What we want to do is encourage them."

Leaders of both the governments and democratic movements in Hungary and Poland "don't want over-promise," Bush said. He declined to discuss an aid package for Poland, but said some specifics would be offered.

In April, Bush announced economic incentives to reward Poland for steps toward democracy and to encourage further political and economic reforms.

The package included asking Congress to lower tariffs on selected Polish imports under the generalized system of preferences, and seeking congressional approval of US-guaranteed loans to stimulate private investment in Poland.

Bush also announced in April a new US willingness to work with other Western financial leaders to help Poland deal with its \$38 billion foreign debt.

On his trip, Bush also was to visit the Baltic Sea city of Gdansk and deliver a speech outside the Lenin Shipyard where the Solidarity labour movement was born.

Bush was to fly to Budapest on Tuesday, becoming the first American president to visit Hungary. After two nights in Budapest, Bush was to go on to Paris for a bicentennial celebration of the French revolution and the annual economic summit of the seven major industrialized countries.

Changes
Bush said his journey "underscores the tremendous changes, challenges, and opportunities ahead of us."

He described Poland and Hungary as "nations on the threshold of a new era, nations where the spirit of freedom is strong."

"In both countries," Bush said, "we're witnessing remarkable changes, welcome developments no one would have thought possible even a year ago."

"New voices are shaping the course of national affairs and both countries are on the path towards economic rebirth and political pluralism," Bush said.

He said that "Europe is at a turning point."

"A continent cruelly divided for more than four decades now dreams of being whole and free," Bush said.

"Our task is clear: to see that we mend old divisions, that we fulfill the decades-old dream and that the new Europe emerges — secure, prosperous, peaceful and free," the president said.

Bush said Europe was in the midst of change, "a time of unprecedented opportunity for peace, prosperity and freedom."

At the summit in Paris, Bush was to meet with the leaders of France, Britain, West Germany, Japan, Italy and Canada.

He said that in addition to economic problems, the leaders were to grapple with environmental issues such as global warming, deforestation and ocean pollution.

Bush described the industrialized nations summit as a unique opportunity to "show that we can forge a common response to new challenges, such as the need to protect the global environment."

"Our agenda at the economic summit will include both political and economic issues of global impact," he declared.

He said that the summit partners would focus on the problem of debt in the developing world and predicted that the summit partners would make a firm commitment to extend the development of world trade treaties by December 1990.

Bush warned "there are no easy solutions to the critical environmental issues affecting the world, including global warming, deforestation and the pollution of the oceans. But he said he was confident that common solutions can be found if the major Western nations work together."

He will travel to Gdansk on Tuesday to meet with Walesa before travelling to Hungary and then on to the Paris summit of the seven major industrialized nations, where he may recommend a multi-lateral economic package of long-term credits.



A local resident shades her face from the sun in a salute-like manner, as she and a young girl walk past a large portrait of US President George Bush in a display window outside the American embassy in Warsaw on Saturday. President Bush arrived in Poland yesterday for a two-day visit. (Reuters wirephoto)

'No need for a Warsaw Pact' to seek US help

Disarmament will bring new atmosphere

MOSCOW, July 9, (Agencies): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said here last night that as process of world disarmament evolves there will be no need for the presence of a Warsaw Pact in the future, the Tass news agency reported.

Gorbachev, who was commenting on outcome of the just concluded Warsaw Pact summit in Bucharest, told Soviet television that as disarmament evolves and security strengthens, especially in Europe, a different atmosphere will be established.

He said the Warsaw alliance will gradually turn "from a military-political into politico-military one and then, in time, there will be no need for it at all."

But, the Soviet leader stressed, "this will take place in the future. Today, this organisation works well."

Gorbachev observed that the Bucharest meeting of the party leaders demonstrated mutual understanding and striving to impart greater dynamics, depth and dimension to their co-operation.

He stressed the need for embracing new forms of co-operation that would meet the tasks of greater integration on the basis of division of labour.

Gorbachev described the final document, signed in Bucharest as "realistic and constructive."

The Warsaw Pact ended the two-day summit yesterday with an outward show of unity but failure to paper over major differences between the allies.

A statement issued after the meeting said every member of the seven-nation defence pact had a right to chart its own future without interference from its neighbours.

But differences surfaced soon after with a row between Romanian host Nicolae Ceausescu and Hungary's newly-elected Communist Party President Reszo Nyers.

And Soviet journalists quoted a senior Moscow government official as saying differences between pact members over economic reform had been so great that all further discussion on the issue had been postponed until a later date.

In the meantime it would be up to experts within the Soviet-led trading organisation COMECON to reconcile the different views of Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union, who are pushing ahead with market-based economic reforms, and conservatives such as Romania, East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

The statement on the meeting said there were good prospects for East-West conventional and nuclear arms accords.

WASHINGTON, July 9, (UPI): Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said yesterday that while "we cannot beg," he will ask President Bush to help Poland's beleaguered economy.

In an interview with CNN's television newsmaker yesterday show monitored in Washington, Walesa said Bush "is a great politician and I was saying that even before he became President."

"He knows Poland's needs," Walesa said during the interview in Gdansk, where he founded the independent trade union. "He's got the knowledge of it."

Obviously, I will give him our point of view, as far as the economy, politics and social issues are concerned. It is his task to design the methods, the concepts of solutions."

Bush arrives in Poland late today and has a full schedule of meetings with Polish authorities, highlighted by an address to the new parliament, which for the first time has a true opposition represented by the independent Solidarity trade union.

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Espionage operation on makers of Starstreak missile

LONDON, July 9, (KUNA): The makers of Britain's Starstreak high-velocity missile, Short Brothers of Belfast, were the target of a long-running espionage operation, it was reported here today.

The claim was made in today's Sunday Telegraph newspaper by an arms dealer who was at the centre of a recent attempt by South Africa to get hold of the technology behind the missile system.

Douglas Bernhardt, a Geneva-based arms dealer, was arrested with three Ulster

extremists in Paris two months ago after they allegedly tried to hand over parts from the new generation missile.

After being released from prison, he told the paper that Pretoria was determined to get hold of the technology behind Starstreak "at any cost" in a bid to beat the world-wide arms embargo.

And he said the Ulster extremists came close to handing over highly classified parts of the missile guidance system to a South African diplomat working for Pretoria's

state-owned weapons maker, Armscor.

The British Government had tried to minimise the security risk by claiming that the three Ulster men were trying to sell a dummy Blowpipe missile-launcher of little technical value, according to the Sunday Telegraph's report.

A one-million pound reward is rumoured to be on offer to anyone who can hand over the technological know-how behind the new missile system, said the weekly.



The charging bulls

Bull runners in Pamplona's San Fermin festival make way for the charging bulls on the third day of festivities yesterday.

Dozens of runners suffered cuts and bruises when they ran with the bulls.

The bulls of the Andalusian ranch of Pablo Romero galloped the half mile (1 km) to the bull ring in two minutes and 50 seconds as an estimated 1,500 youths ran in front, alongside and behind them.

Several of the runners fell, and about a dozen were treated for minor injuries, officials said.

The weeklong drinking and dancing festival began at mid-day Thursday and continues until July 14.

The festival and running of the bulls began to draw large international crowds after they were described in "The Sun Also Rises," a novel written in 1926 by the late American author Ernest Hemingway.

Summitry

G-7 summit on July 14

PARIS, July 9, (KUNA): Third World debts, the environment and the East-West relations are the subjects which will be most debated in the deliberations of the July 14th summit of the seven Western industrialised nations.

The leaders of the seven nations, who open their meetings on the 200th anniversary of the Bastille Day, are also to discuss macro-economic topics, the process of development within their group and regional conflicts.

The leaders of Britain, West Germany, Italy, Japan, Canada, US, and the host nation, France, will debate two plans over the debt problem of the Third World.

The US, coming to Paris with a plan, by Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, call for encouraging commercial banks to reduce the debts of the most poor of Third World countries with the indirect support of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

An agreement in this effect with Latin American nations was reached four months ago, but until now its application has been hindered by many difficulties.

According to sources here, Mexico is expected to be the first to apply the "Brady plan" before the summit, but other nations and the banks could not agree on the level of the reduction.

For that reason, French Finance Minister Pierre Berégovoy says the G-7 must go further in assisting the indebted Third World nations by easing the debt burden which is estimated at \$1,300 billion.

The European states in the G-7 are expected to call for lifting protectionism on exports of the Third World countries, especially by the US, in order to allow them gain hard currency needed to pay back their debts.

The Inter-G-7 economic affairs will also be discussed by the leaders, especially these concerning unemployment, stabilising monetary systems and ways of enhancing social justice.

The development process of the seven will also be discussed, and three projects in this regard from Japan, the US and France will be presented.

The US will present projects on drug control and means of impeding drug-money laundering.

For the first time in these annual meetings, the environment will be a major subject of discussion by the Group of Seven.

In a recent meeting with journalists at the Elysee Palace, French presidential advisor, Jacques Attali said the summit will be presented with a project concerning pollution control in the G-7 states and means of supporting Third World nations to combat atmospheric pollution.

The effects of desertification in West Africa and other regions of the world will be debated in the summit, said Attali, noting that France will present to the meeting an aid package project for West African nations.

According to official sources in Washington, the summit might not come up with a declaration or a project on the environment, but a recognition of the subject's importance.

The summit is held a month after the European elections during which the environmentalists have scored major success in all

Anti-summit march

PARIS, July 9, (Reuters): Upto 20,000 people braved thunderous Paris skies yesterday to protest against the holding of a summit of the world's richest countries during bicentennial celebrations of the French Revolution.

A free pop concert after the march, on the site of the original Bastille Prison, was expected to draw up to 100,000 people. The storming of the Bastille on July 14, 1789, was the symbolic start of the revolution.

Full-page newspaper advertisements urged support for the march against leaders of the world's wealthiest economies.

"Two hundred years after the first attack on privilege, the privileged of the planet will meet in Paris, do their sums and look for ways to increase their power," the advertisements said.

Left-wing groups see the holding of next week's summit amid the revolutionary festivities as an insult to the world's poor.

Conservative politicians, who accuse Socialist President Francois Mitterrand of regal pretensions, call it a sign of his "megalomania".

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The summit is held a month after the European elections during which the environmentalists have scored major success in all

four G-7 European states. Attali said the leaders will talk over the effects of natural catastrophes in Third World nations and means of extending aid to these nations at times of disasters.

Last year's floods in Bangladesh, which claimed thousands of victims and affected the lives of millions others, will be a study case in the summit, Attali said.

On the political level, the seven leaders will examine relations with East bloc nations in the light of the recent developments on the other side of the iron curtain.

US President George Bush is scheduled to visit Poland and Hungary before he arrives into the Paris summit, while Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has just concluded a tour of Britain, West Germany and France in the course of the past two months.

In his joint press conference with Gorbachev last Wednesday, President Mitterrand stressed the need for supporting the "perestroika" strategy in the Soviet Union which he described as the key for democracy and development.

In Washington, President Bush said Western democracies must re-coordinate their economic and technical assistance programmes to meet with the historic changes taking place in Poland and Hungary.

NEWS IN BRIEF

US evangelist

LONDON, July 9, (AP): The Rev. Billy Graham said today he often receives death threats but pays no attention to them.

"I have no bodyguards and I don't have anybody protecting me," Graham told television interviewer David Frost at the conclusion of his three-week British crusade.

"We get them (threats) quite often and I pay absolutely no attention to them," he said. "They're just put aside. I feel like I'm clothed in the armour of God and I'll go on as long as God want me to and if he wants me killed, I'm happy to be killed."

Artforum

PRAGUE, July 9, (UPI): Czechoslovak authorities have permitted the establishment of a non-profit cultural interest organisation founded by former leaders of the Jazz section, an independent organisation whose officers were imprisoned two years ago.

Former Jazz section leader Karel Srp said the organisation, called Artforum, will be for people interested in jazz, rock and small theatre.

"I stress that it's a non-political, non-profit organisation," Srp said in a telephone interview.

6 kidnapped

MEDELLIN, Colombia, July 9, (UPI): Three mayors and three municipal employees were kidnapped yesterday by the National Liberation Army, a guerrilla group that announced they will be released soon to deliver messages to the government, authorities said.

Two officials reportedly were kidnapped on Friday by the same group. The mayors kidnapped yesterday headed three towns in the eastern part of the Antioquia area north of Bogota and long a site of political violence.

Committee report
LIMA, July 9, (UPI): More than 14,000 people, including 1,000 policemen and soldiers, have been killed in nine years of Peru's political violence and guerrilla war, a senate committee reported yesterday.

The special research committee covered the period from the 1980 birth of the Communist Shining Path guerrilla movement until June 30.

Authorities said yesterday there had been at least 29 more deaths in the previous 24-hour period.

The report said June was a particularly bloody month, with 179 attacks attributed to Shining Path and 19 to the revolutionary Tupac Amaru Movement.

Political crisis
PANAMA CITY, July 9, (UPI): Panamanian military officials failed to attend a meeting yesterday morning to outline the terms of future negotiations with opposition leaders to resolve Panama's political crisis.

Opposition leaders sent invitations for the proposed meeting this week to military strongman Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, former pre-army presidential candidate, Carlos Duque, and other government officials, which was scheduled to take place 9:00 am yesterday at Panama City's Vatican embassy.

63 rebels dead
SAN SALVADOR, July 9, (UPI): The Salvadoran Army said yesterday that 63 rebels died over the last week in the eastern and central regions of the country.

Over the same period two soldiers died in armed confrontations with rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, known by its Spanish acronym as FMLN, the Armed Forces Press Committee, or Copresca said.

The Salvadoran Army described as "strong, intense" yesterday morning's skirmishes in the capital district of San Salvador, near the town of Vicente, 21 miles (35 km) east of the capital and the province of Morazan, 62 miles (100 km) east of the capital.

Bicentennial parade
PARIS, July 9, (UPI): A rainy afternoon did not stop large crowds from gathering at the Hotel de Ville, the Parisian city hall, to watch some 600 university and high school students from the United States perform in a special bicentennial parade yesterday.

The brassband majorette parade and choir, which were sponsored by President Bush, were made up of students from several states including North Carolina, Virginia, Montana, Indiana, Georgia, and Michigan. The celebration was dubbed "an American homage to Paris" commemorating the bicentennial of the French revolution.

Nuclear blast
MOSCOW, July 9, (AP): The Soviet Union detonated a nuclear explosion with a force of 20 kilotons at 7:47 am (03:47 GMT) yesterday at its test site in Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan, the official news agency Tass reported.

"The test was carried out for the purpose of upgrading military hardware," the report said. "Radiation levels at and outside the test-site were within the norm."

A kiloton has the explosive force of 1,000 pounds of TNT. The atomic bomb dropped Aug. 6, 1945, on Hiroshima, Japan, in the first use of the bomb as a weapon, had the explosive force of 20 kilotons.

Strained relations
BUCHAREST, Romania, July 9, (AP): Political relations between Romania and Hungary have reached a "bottom point," a top Hungarian official said yesterday after a meeting between leaders of both countries.

The report came yesterday after a meeting between Romanian Communist leader Nicolae Ceausescu and Hungarian Party Chairman Reszo Nyers.

"We took stock of all problems affecting our relations," Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn said in comments reported by state-run MTI news agency.

Vendee recalls bloody past

Revolution's 'liars' decried

LES HERBIERS, France, July 9, (AP): In the rolling hills of France's Vendee region, where liberty and brotherhood were eclipsed by scorched earth and slaughter, talk of the French Revolution bicentennial provokes cool hard stares.

"For us, it was a horrible genocide, a lasting source of national shame," remarked Roger Jouteau, manager of this little town which is still recovering from a Republican assault in 1794.

As official France basks in glory, many Frenchmen dispute the view that their revolution shaped the notion of universal human rights. They accuse authorities of whitewashing a black period.

A group of dissenters hopes to assemble 500,000 people on Aug 15 to pray for forgiveness of revolutionary excesses. They will gather at the Place de la Concorde, where Louis XVI was beheaded.

But bitterness is profound and personal in the Vendee, a region of rich farmland south of the Loire River and spreading east from the Atlantic Ocean.

"The first human right is the right to truth," said Philippe de Villiers, member of parliament from Vendee, in raucous debate on the popular television programme "Apostrophes."

His book, "Open Letter to the Head Choppers and Liars of the Bicentennial," notes V.I. Lenin studied France's Revolution as a model, and Josef Stalin cited its terror to justify his purges.

The guillotine is famous. De Villiers argues, but few recall 300,000 Vendeeans killed in battle, disembowelled, starved, or shoved alive into bread ovens in a two-year civil war.

Most victims were not aristocrats, but peasants who defended the Roman Catholic clergy and resisted conscription to fight far-away wars. Children described as future rebels were massacred.

Such new studies as Simon Schama's US bestseller, "Citizens," assert that much of France remained loyal to King Louis XVI, who agreed to enlightened rule under a constitution.

Bicentennial celebrations, critics say, ignore the vicious, arbitrary official terror which followed and, in the resultant chaos, produced Napoleon Bonaparte and then another Bourbon king.

Typical of the Vendee, Les Herbiere is to mark July 14 as it always does, with only the brief ceremony ordered by Paris.

"To forget what happened, it is shocking," Jouteau said. "To spend hundreds of millions of francs that could be used for other things, shocking."

De Villiers hammered at this theme on television, criticising what he estimated at the equivalent of \$50 million spent on celebrating French glory in the presence of foreign leaders.

"They're spending all this to welcome the princes of the earth and common Frenchmen can't get even close," he said, referring to security measures sealing off parts of downtown Paris for a week.

He touched a nerve across the country, but not surprisingly, reaction was strongest in Vendee.

Monique Amirda, a patriotic Frenchwoman, wears a gold necklace shaped into the region's emblem: a double heart capped by a cross and a crown to indicate loyalty to God and the king.

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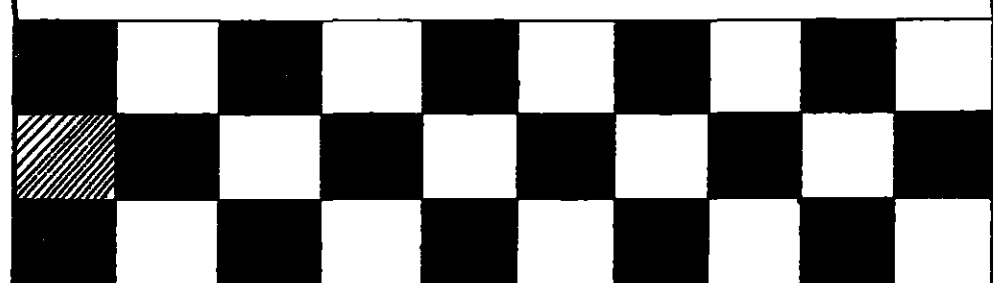
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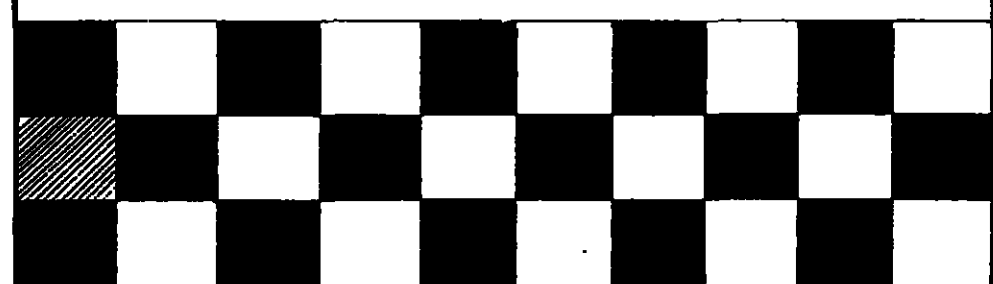
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Kuwait for normal relations with neighbours

Lebanese should end differences: Rashid

LONDON, July 9. (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid today stressed Kuwait's desire for normal relations with neighbouring countries.

Speaking to daily "Al Sharq Al Awsat," the official said that Kuwait hopes that a comprehensive peace agreement would be signed between Iran and all states in the region to start a new phase of good neighbourly relations among countries overlooking the Arabian Gulf.

Diplomatic ties

Rashid told the London based paper that circumstances are appropriate to sign such a treaty adding that there are indicators that both countries, Iraq and Iran, want to maintain the current ceasefire between them.

Interviewed in Kuwait, the official said that his country does not mind restoring diplomatic relations with Iran to the normal level since both, Kuwait and Iran, are not in conflict with each other.

Rashid said that peace has to be just and comprehensive to offer best guarantees to all Arab Gulf states for working together in reconstruction and removal of all vestiges of war.

The state minister welcomed the positive developments that are being witnessed in Lebanon due to the efforts of the tripartite Arab Committee.

Stability and unity of Lebanon is a national matter and the Lebanese are responsible in the first place and are thus to end their differences and look after the welfare of their country. Rashid concluded.

Summer vacations

How young boys spend their leisure

YOUTH have been the subject of severe criticism by residents who claim that they engage in anti-social activities, disrupt traffic at streets and at residential areas. They are also accused of destroying and vandalising public properties and utilities. At recreational areas, they are accused of harassing families who come to relax.

A local daily interviewed a cross-section of youth to get a first hand impression of their opinions to these allegations. Maher Ismael — 15 years old — said that he spends most of his leisure time at home watching video films or playing different home games. The weather is very hot outside, and it is hard to go out during the day time. During the night, when temperatures are a bit lower, he spends his time playing with neighbours in front of his house or in the surrounding area.

He added that he does not have any idea why teenagers are accused of annoying people, but he did not deny the fact that there are some teenagers who disturb others at public areas. He stated that he may have indulged in such practices himself, but now regrets the inconvenience he might have caused.

Ahmad Ismael — 16 years old — said that he goes regularly to a public garden with his brother and that he enjoys his time there because of the animals. Ahmad acknowledged that many teenagers harass families by disturbing their daughters. He said that some teenagers do not give any consideration to the feelings of society in general.

He stressed however that he had never harassed a family, and added that he has a lot of leisure time during the summer holidays when schools are closed. He sleeps until late everyday to avoid going outside during day hours because of the

hot weather, and spends a lot of time watching television.

Fayez — 16 years old — said that he highly enjoys walking in markets along with other friends. He is happy the most when harassing girls especially when making the acquaintance of a new girlfriend.

He added that he spends most of his time walking in markets, and sitting beside the telephone exchanging romantic conversation with girls. He stated that he learned these things from his older brother, who always talks with his girlfriends in front of him and his younger brother.

Fayez added that he does not deny that harassment causes disturbance to families, but said that many girls show positive response and that many wear provocative clothes.

Ayedh Al Otaihi said that it is wrong to generalise that all teenagers are bad. He urged youth to enjoy their leisure time in beneficial things and to get ready for the coming school year.

Places
Ibrahim Khaleel — 16 years old — said that he usually travels abroad during summer. He travelled to Egypt last year and cannot understand why his father refused to travel this year despite the hot weather. He added that staying at home all the time is impossible, therefore he goes to the sea front almost everyday.

Fahed Fhad — 15 years old — said that some teenagers are very polite and would never harass families. He pointed out that he goes to play on his bicycle everyday along with friends and that reckless drivers are very dangerous and compel youth to stay off streets.

He called upon officials to designate places for teenagers to play with their bicycles away from streets.

Finance Ministry cuts budget for rented flats

THE Ministry of Finance's reason for delaying payment due on July 1 to some owners of buildings rented by the government, is the intention by the ministry to cancel some contracts, reduce rents of certain flats and introduce administrative and legal amendments to existing contracts, an official at the ministry said.

The ministry has already alerted the Central Bank to notify the banks of its clients to issue outstanding payments. The release of payments will take place in alphabetical order and as a result some will be able to cash their payments within the coming few days, while the rest after Eid.

Renegotiation
The source added that the ministry spared no effort to meet its obligations towards the owners of rented buildings and that the delay had not been intentional but was dictated due to administrative, legal and regulatory reasons.

As a result of renegotiating contracts, the effected amendments, the cancellation of certain flats, reduction in rent values of certain buildings, the ministry's total budget for rented accommodations dropped by KD1 million, as of July 1.

The source pointed out that the ministry's budget for rented real estate for the year 87/88 was KD23 million, but dropped to KD22 million, and that the estimated real estate budget for 89/90 is KD18,600,000.00, the drop being the result of rescinded contracts.

The source stressed that the rents were paid to the owners of the building in line with the terms of the contracts signed with them respectively, and that the payment would be made for occupied flats only.

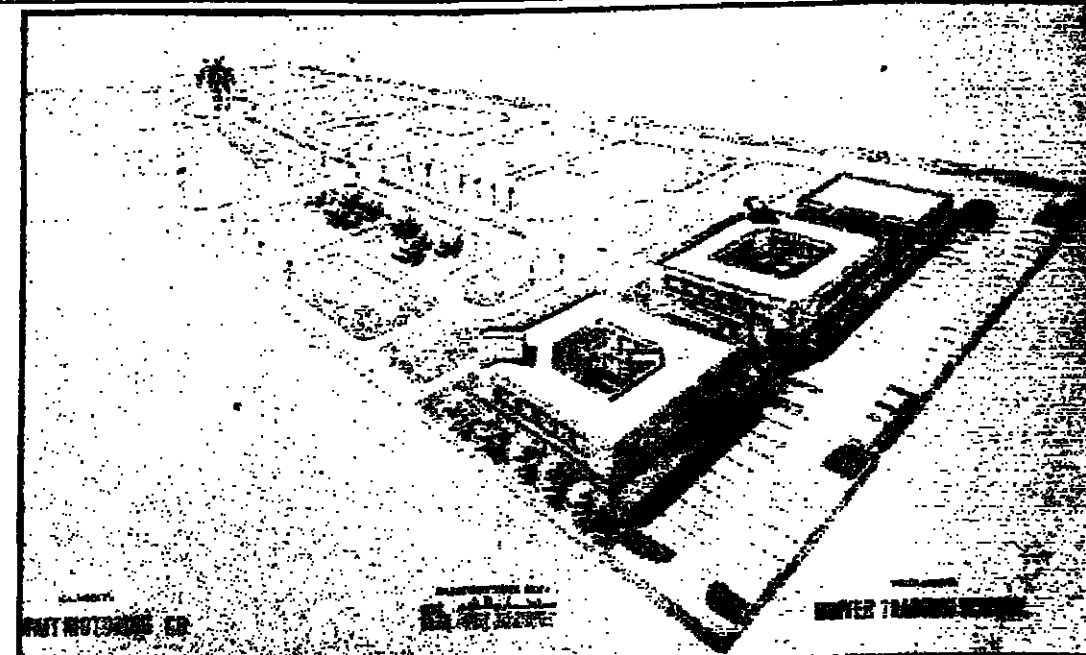
Prison sentence dropped

TWO men sentenced to 7-years' imprisonment by Kuwait's Criminal Court for kidnapping a 15-year-old girl had their freedom restored — solely through the courtesy of the victim's father.

Originally, the girl had told police that the two had forced her into a car and taken her to an isolated place, where she alleged that one of the accused raped her.

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New driving school

BRIGADIER Fudhail Al Saleh has signed a contract to build a driving school in Shuwaikh. The contract was counter-signed by the chairman of the contracting company.

The director-general of the Kuwait Motoring Company, retired Colonel Sager Al Jasser said that people who will join the driving school will be classified into different classes. Learners will have to pass all three stages of the driving programme which will include mechanics, traffic law and practical driving.

Commenting on the present driving schools, Jasser said that they could continue imparting training courses only after obtaining licences from the motoring company, allowing them to train holders of the Istimara (learners licence).

Jasser added that cars which will be used in training will have manual gears. Automatic cars will not be allowed in training. The company will also use middle size cars.

Those who fail the driving test will be allowed additional practice but at double charges, Jasser said.

The Kuwait Motoring Company was established in September 1987 with a capital of KD5 million, of which the Public Investment Authority owns 98 per cent. Other shares are owned by various driving schools. One driving school will be built in each of the five governorates, Jasser said.

Picture above shows the design plan of the new driving school in Shuwaikh.

Financial assistance to 15,369 minors

Excellent care for Kuwait's orphans

By Bassem Al Qasbi

KUWAIT is among the leading countries that provide excellent services in the care of minors and orphans and the Public Authority for Minors Affairs is carrying out administrative developments to ensure optimum services in this regard, Abdullah Nasser Al Hamlan, deputy director general of the authority said.

A department for orphans and minors was first established in 1938. Subsequently, due to the increasing number of beneficiaries, the department began the distribution of financial assistance on an individual basis.

At this stage, to streamline the workings of the department, it was considered prudent to incorporate the department with the Ministry of Justice and came to be entitled as the "Minors Department." This incorporation took place in 1979.

Enhanced activities of the department necessitated a review of the department's status and after in-depth studies were conducted, it was decided to establish an independent establishment.

which explains the present status of the Public Authority for Minors Affairs. This body was established in 1983.

The authority's primary area of concern is to provide supervisory guidance of the activities of guardians who have been authorised by the court to guard the welfare and upbringing of Kuwaiti minors and orphans.

The present scenario of heightened activity and responsibilities, coupled with the addition in the number of employees and beneficiaries and the need for utilising computers to speed up work procedures and maintain records in a professional manner has necessitated the authority being relocated to a new building. The building is scheduled to be completed next October, Hamlan said.

Investments
The official said that the authority bases its financial dealings in accordance with the dictates of Islam. The majority of its capital is invested in real estate and with the Kuwait Finance House. The authority is also a shareholder in some Kuwaiti and Gulf based

companies, the official added. Hamlan disclosed that the authority has an amount of KD80 million in various forms of investment. A total of 15,369 minors representing 4,353 families are registered as beneficiaries and receive various forms of financial and other social services.

With respect to training courses for Kuwaitis, the official said that training is imparted at two levels — training under the supervision of the authority and special training conducted with the co-operation of Kuwait University. The other form of training is organised by the Civil Service Commission for different ministries.

The authority is hampered in developing its services and maintaining the level of assistance it desires primarily due to the lack of trained Kuwaiti manpower. Further, the authority sees a lack of appreciation of the general public towards the vital role played by the authority in providing these vital and humane services to minors and orphans, the official concluded.

10 dentists graduate at Oral Health centre

THE Department of Advancement of Oral Health Services celebrated its first anniversary and the graduation of ten dentists who completed theoretical and practical training at the centre.

The head of the Department of Advancement of Oral Health Services, Dr Abdul Razzaq Al Nafisi said that the centre was established to enhance dental services and to train recent dental graduates, nurses and technicians.

Training

The centre represents the ministry's directives to improve dental services in Kuwait. The department comprises two units in the field of medical sciences — a training and continuous education unit and a research unit. It also has a family clinic for residents in Rumithiya.

Training of graduates involves a total of 800 hours. The department in furtherance of its activities has held a one-week training course on oral technology in co-operation with the Kuwait Dentists Society. The training of 43 dentists has also been organised by the department.

Cycling marathon record by Indian

A YOUNG Indian created a unique record in Bahrain by participating in a non-stop round-the-clock marathon lasting 82 hours. By performing this remarkable feat Sayed Sardar Nawab, aged 30, not only proved that such an endurance test was possible but also broke his previous record of 81 hours.

For three days last week Nawab was the centre of attraction as islanders flocked in large number to witness a "miracle" of both physical and mental endurance never seen in the region before. The lone cyclist took up the challenge on Wednesday morning at 9 am in front of an enthusiastic and awestruck crowd of both nationals and expatriates at the Al Ahli Stadium, Zinj. Among the prominent personalities present to watch this exciting event were Sheikh Rashid Bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, president of the General Organisation for Youth and Sports (GOYS) and the outgoing Indian Ambassador M.P.M. Menon. The marathon was organised under the patronage of GOYS to raise funds for charity.

Nawab's feat proved even more astonishing and praiseworthy considering that he embarked on his epic record breaking journey on what turned out to be the hottest day of the year so far at 48 Celsius. The following days proved just as hot and humid, but the cyclist continued his marathon ride with sheer determination not allowing the difficult weather conditions to deter him. He kept up his spirits, thanks to the continuous support and cheer from the spectators, some of whom followed his ordeal for hours to encourage him all the way.

The highlights of this extraordinary event proved to be the moments when Nawab entertained the crowd by shaving, brushing his teeth, changing his clothes and even having a wash with a bucket, all while cycling. The major obstacle, apart from the scorching heat was trying to keep awake throughout the event. But the brave cyclist overcame even this hurdle with aplomb.

Legal Clinic

ADVICE FROM OUR KUWAITI LAWYER KHALID TAHER

If you have a legal problem, labour or any other kind. Send your questions to Arab Times, Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer Khalid Taher applies to readers queries. Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O.

Box 2270, 13023 Safat Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495. If you have any doubts please call 4813566 Ext 285 between 12 noon and 6 pm.



WE are the employees of a cleaning company. We were hired from Sri Lanka and brought to Kuwait in April, 1988. Until today, the company has not made our residence permits or visas. Last week, four colleagues were arrested and are in a police station. Our employer told the police they are "absconders". This is not true. They worked with us as cleaners in the museum and at the ports.

We went to our embassy in April and were advised to approach the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. As most cleaners don't speak Arabic, one of us who knows Arabic approached the ministry. The ministry asked the employer to provide us with ID cards and visas. Our employer did not make the visas and ID cards. We went back to the ministry but were told that we would be deported if we returned to them.

No one inspects our accommodation; KD2 or KD5 is deducted from our actual salary of KD31 per month. We were brought on a two year contract. We are in a difficult position as we can't go out for fear of arrest. We don't know what to do. Please advice and help us.

83 Sri Lankan workers of Kuwait's Private Sector Labour Law, prohibits an employer to put to work any non-Kuwaiti without obtaining an identity card. They cannot be employed unless labourers are in possession of valid work permits, or registered with Social Affairs Ministry.

Most employers don't bother about this law because of the weak punishment for breaking the above provision. Article 97 stipulating the punishment for offenders says such people would be liable to pay a fine of KD3 per person for breaking the law for the first time, and KD5 per person for a repeated offence.

Article 88 defines conciliation and arbitration of collective labour disputes. First the two parties (employer and employees) must try for an amicable agreement. If they fail, then the two parties must try to settle their dispute through negotiations by submitting a request to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

If the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour fails to settle the dispute within 15 days from the date of submitting such a request, the dispute, by law, will be referred to the labour disputes arbitration committee, which looks into the matter.

If the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour cannot find a solution, the case can be referred to the court, which can issue a certificate to the labourers saying your case is in the court. This certificate will allow you to stay in Kuwait until the case is settled.

This is a lengthy procedure, but it is the only way open to settle your problem.

I CAME to Kuwait in July 1988 on visa No.18. At present I am working in a small shop as a salesman which employs only two people, including me. I would like to know if the labour law applies to me. Will I have to wait to complete three years with my present employer before I can change my job? Or can I change my job before completing three years with the consent of my employer?

Joe Creado
THE Private Sector Labour Law, Article No.2, covers categories not subject to the application of the law. (section f) exempts "owners of mechanical/minor business concerns normally employing less than five labourers." However, in the next Article (3), the law says that employers are prohibited from employing non-Kuwaiti labourers unless they hold valid residence permits, which means that people who work in small establishments are covered by the law.

As you are covered, you must wait for three years with your present employer before you seek a new job.

I WAS employed on July 7, 1983 and my services were terminated on June 30, 1989. My basic salary is KD390 plus KD60 transport allowance. My contract says "salary to be calculated on 26 days per month basis".

Please tell me:
a) Final indemnity: will it be calculated on KD390 or KD450?
b) What will be my leave benefits? Annual leave? I have taken a few days leave during my six years service. I added a few days to the national holiday like Feb 25 or Eid.
My company is including the national holiday along with the annual leave. My contention is that national holidays cannot be combined with annual leave.

M.D.
IN most cases it would be calculated on KD450, including transport allowances.

2) You are entitled to get 14 leave days per year for the first five years and 21 days for the sixth year and onwards, according to Article 38. You can calculate the number of days of vacation taken by you and how many days are accrued to you; minus the vacation days, the rest has to be paid to you.

Article 36 defines "official (national) holidays that are granted to a labourer—Hijra New Year (one day); Ascension Day (one day); Eid Al Fitr (two days); Eid Al Adha (two days); Prophet's Birthday (one day) and National Day (one day). The law says that if a labourer is required to work on any of the official holidays, he shall be paid "double wages", i.e. the normal salary plus an extra day's pay."

National holidays are not included in the annual vacation, and as such are not taken into account.

I WORK in a large semi-government establishment which has over 1,000 employees. Previously, those who completed five years service were granted 21 days paid leave per year. Those who served under five years got 14 days paid leave. This year, employees who have completed five to 10 years service are being given only 14 days paid leave per annum. The staff category still get 30 days paid leave. This has created disharmony and reduced our enthusiasm. Is there any help for us?

R.M. and friends
THERE are several kinds of contracts in the government and semi-government sectors. As I am unaware of the terms of the contract, I can't advise you. If you can give a copy of the contract, or tell me what kind of contract was signed, I'll be able to give you an accurate reply.

IN March 1987, my friend bought a radio-cassette recorder worth KD77 on an instalment basis. I was the guarantor. My friend and I left Kuwait in May 1988. At that time I did not know that my friend was unable to pay his debt. When I returned to Kuwait in May 1989, the owner of the store told me I had to repay my friend's debt and wants me to pay KD620 because the interest is 10 per cent per day, plus the value of the radio/cassette. If I don't pay, he said, he'll call the police and have me arrested.

a) Is he right?
b) Am I obliged to pay this amount?
c) My company deducted the payment for making my Civil ID card. Are they allowed to do so?

Engene Sta Cruz
You can call the police to have that person arrested. Article 230 of the criminal law forbids any person to lend money on very high interest rates.

It is an offence punishable under the present law with not more than one year imprisonment and KD100 or one of the two punishments. It is forbidden to take such a high rate of interest. That person is committing a crime, as stated above.

b) You are not obliged to pay the sum of

KD620. But as you stood as a guarantor, you must pay the exact amount of KD77; if there is an interest, it should be a maximum of seven per cent per year.

c) The payment of such fees depends on the agreement made between both parties; if there is no agreement, you must pay the fees; making a Civil ID card, considered to be a personal document, would come under personal expense.

M. PANIKAR: We could not understand your question and were unable to figure out what you were trying to ask us. It's not clear what your doubts are. Kindly write again, making a clear, precise statement.

I WORK as a cleaner in one of the hospitals in Kuwait. I am employed by a cleaning firm, which has the contract. My salary is KD30 per month. I am expected to work continuously for eight hours a day. If anyone is caught eating or drinking, he is fined KD2 to KD5. Every month, almost every cleaner is paid a fine of two or less but never more.

We come on two or three year contracts, but are deported on the slightest pretext. Can we seek redress in a court of law? Do we enjoy rights as workers under Kuwaiti law?

S. Francis Pereira
ARTICLE 48 to 51 define the conditions under which an employer has the right to punish employees. For example, employers can take action against a worker if he/she commits an offence, like stopping work during working hours, thereby neglecting duty. You can't claim for such deduction. However, if you have a valid reason, and you have not committed an offence, you can make a claim.

WE WERE hired as security guards/watchmen from our country of origin on a contract basis by a private company which has a government contract. We are performing 24 hour duties, without even a single day off per week.

Please advice us regarding overtime payment on holidays and Fridays; what holidays we are entitled to, and how many hours a day we have to work in accordance with the Labour Law.

We came to Kuwait in November, 1988 on visa No.18. After four months of arrival, we were asked to sign a contract in Arabic. The management did not translate the contract in English and did not give us copies. We don't know what the contract says.

IDENTITY withheld
THE Private Sector Labour Law, Articles 33,34,35,36,38,39 cover working hours, overtime wages, extra work etc. We'll give you a gist of the law, highlighting the important points. By the law, each person is allowed to work eight hours a day or 48 hours a week. The working hours can be increased in the case of such workers as hotel staff, guards and hospital workers. Working hours can be reduced in the event of hard work, or work harmful to health or during severe weather conditions.

A labourer can do overtime, provided he gets written orders from his employer, for which he should be paid 25 per cent extra for each hour.

Article 35 says that if a labourer works on the weekly day off, he is entitled to be paid the normal wage plus at least 50 per cent extra.

There are eight national holidays: Hijra New Year (one), Ascension Day (one), Eid Al Fitr (two), Eid Al Adha (two), Prophet's Birthday (one) and the National Day (one). If a labourer works on these days, he is entitled to be paid the normal wage plus an extra day's wage.

As you don't have a copy, most probably, the Arabic contract was made for the purpose of processing your residence papers. If you don't know what is written in the contract, you can refer to the English one, if it is in your interest.

Cabinet reviews various draft laws

Sheikh Saad chairs weekly session

KUWAIT, July 9. (KUNA): The cabinet held its weekly meeting today under the chairmanship of HH The Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

Following the session, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Al Rashid said that the cabinet opened its discussions by reviewing a message from Palestine's President Yasser Arafat to HH the Amir, in which he hailed Kuwait's supportive stance of the Palestinian question and the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people.

The cabinet then discussed the two messages exchanged between HH the Amir and Turkish President Kenan Evren on the

5th meeting of the Standing Committee and Trade and Economic Co-operation and the first meeting for energy ministers of member states at the Organisation of Islamic Conference to be held in Turkey next September.

During the session, HH Sheikh Saad reported to the council on his tours of the country's main land border outlets, namely Salmiya, Nuwaiseb and Abdally, and Kuwait International Airport last Tuesday and yesterday. HH was accompanied by a number of ministers and officials.

Rashed noted that the cabinet decided to form a permanent committee, in accordance with HH's instructions, to co-ordin-

ate improving the quality of work at the various outlets.

The committee groups the Interior undersecretary and assistant undersecretaries of Finance, Health and Communications and also representatives of the General Customs Department, director-general of the Civil Aviation General Directorate and director-general of the Ports Public Authority.

In response to the housing needs of some citizens working in these outlets, the cabinet commissioned the state minister for housing with examining the possibility of establishing residential areas near these outlets.

Due to HH's care for those sent abroad for treatment, the

council entrusted the health minister with revising the financial allocations for patients sent abroad.

The cabinet also reviewed a draft law to simplify trials on small claims cases, which take place usually between middle income parties.

It also reviewed a draft law on re-shuffling the Higher Council for Traffic.

The council also discussed a law aimed at halting cheating in trade transactions, through imposing harsher punishments on violators.

The previous draft laws were endorsed and recommended that they be referred to the Amir Diwan.

12 temporary slaughter houses set up for Eid

By Jamal Amin

TWELVE temporary slaughter houses to facilitate the Eid sacrifices on the first and second days of Eid are to be established in various areas, according to the director of Slaughter Houses Department at Kuwait Municipality, Sheikh Salem Mohammad Al Sabah who added that these houses will operate in conjunction with the six permanent slaughter houses.

These temporary houses will be located at the five governorates of Daiya, Shamiya, Nuzha, Salmiya, Rawdha, Bayan, Sabah Al Salem, Al Daher, Sulaybiqhat, Salwa and Omariya.

The temporary slaughter houses will charge KD3,500 per head, which is butchering charge only. Sheikh Salem said and added that this is the second year that such temporary centres are set up on the occasion of the Eid.

Inspections

Last year's experiment in this connection proved successful in offering good services to the public and reducing the pressure on permanent centres. Sheikh Salem said that these temporary centres are also set up to prevent exploitation by private butchers who used to charge KD10 per head on Eid days.

He added that the Slaughter Houses Department has taken all preparations to meet the Eid rush and has cancelled vacations of all veterinary doctors, inspectors and supervisors to ensure optimum services to the public.

A veterinary doctor will examine all animals before allowing slaughter at all temporary and permanent centres. Additionally, these centres are fully supervised and controlled by the municipality. The temporary centres will be supplied with all necessary facilities including water to clean the slaughtered meat. The Union of Kuwait's Consumer Co-operative Societies is also co-operating with the municipality in this respect, the official said.

He predicted that thousands of sheep will be slaughtered at these centres. Sheikh Salem added that an experiment on slaughtering the sacrifices will be carried out Monday at the Omariya centre and State Minister for Municipal Affairs, Mohammad Al Rifai, and Acting Director of Municipality, Sheikh Sabah Jabir Al Ali and other officials will attend. This experiment is aimed at ensuring that all services and facilities are available.

He said that live sheep will be available for purchase at permanent and temporary centres. Contractors will supply the sheep and will be committed to replace any sheep unacceptable.

Traffic TV cameras go berserk

AN experimental project originally aimed at mounting computerised TV cameras at cross-roads, express ways and main streets designed to monitor traffic flow and apprehend traffic violators is reported to have been abandoned by the General Traffic Department.

The department had earlier mounted one TV camera at the Riyadh Street interchange under Keifan bridge with the intention of testing the efficiency of the proposed new control system.

The decision to cancel the project is attributed to the failure of the system to operate efficiently under Kuwait's scorching summers. The system reportedly took pictures of plate numbers of all cars within camera range — irrespective if they were violators or not.

Communications to be modernised

Speedier services at reduced cost

THE Minister of Communications Abdullah Al Sharhan has said that Kuwait is one of the first among a few countries to introduce communication-by-satellite system, and currently owns five ground stations, the first of which was built in Um Al Aish in 1969.

The ministry is currently involved in preparations to implement a new communication system in two stages in 1991 and 1993. The introduction of new system falls in the framework of a number of new subscriber services introduced by the ministry in the field of telephone communication and postal services, the official told a local daily.

He said that incoming postal packages were subjected to intensive control for health, security, informational, customs and other considerations and called on all people to co-operate with the ministry to upgrade its services and optimise the level of performance.

Sharhan pointed out that the ministry constantly developed its services and that underground communication grids were being installed with microwave connections to further support its international communications systems and further establish communicative relations with all countries of the world.

The minister said that the ministry is planning to implement a new communication system called the IDR, which will actively contribute to the acceleration of data communication between ground stations, and will upgrade the quality and performance of operating international communication systems, double the number of operating international communication circuits, optimise spatial communications, reduce communication-by-satellite cost, cut down the cost of international operator services, and upgrade all communication services in general.

He said that the Civil Service Council agreed to recruiting Kuwaiti postmen on grade 7 instead of 8, and that the ministry has vacancies for 150 postmen in its five-year-plan. However, the official expressed doubts whether any Kuwaiti will apply for the job.

Ayoub pointed out that the administrative development is in



Sharhan ... developments

The new edition of the 'yellow pages' will be ready before the end of this year and free copies will be distributed among subscribers.

To reduce pressure on the 101-operator service, subscribers are urged to utilise the directory.

Meanwhile, another local daily interviewed the ministry's undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayoub who emphasised that the ministry had no intention to specify the number of daily internal free telephone calls or levy charges on length of telephone conversations.

He ruled out that intention of unifying GCC telephone central or cancel imposed tariffs on inter-GCC calls, due to the huge returns collected by each country as charges on such calls.

Ayoub said that the existing telephone communication grid is one of the best in the world, and that the fact that it is deeply laid underground prevents damage from local weather conditions, enhances its functional efficiency and increases its years of performance.

He said that the Civil Service Council agreed to recruiting Kuwaiti postmen on grade 7 instead of 8, and that the ministry has vacancies for 150 postmen in its five-year-plan. However, the official expressed doubts whether any Kuwaiti will apply for the job.

Ayoub pointed out that the administrative development is in full progress at the ministry, stressing that the ministry is perhaps the only ministry in the government that is able to secure revenues, after covering all expenditures, in the amount of more than KD30 million. He added that the new ministry budget for the year 89/90 did not exceed KD60.5 million.

Authorities double-check telephone sets imported into the country to ensure that they conform to locally-approved standards and that they do not cause any interference with operating telephone systems. Any smuggled sets will eventually be detected and violators would have to face legal responsibility, the official said.

He reaffirmed that the ministry would notify the subscriber with outstanding telephone bills of its intention to disconnect their lines by mail by calling them on a number of occasions before the measure indicated was adopted.

The undersecretary said that the busy signal a caller to Shuwaikah area would at times get was because this central operated under heavy pressure which exceeded 150,000 calls per hour. This is the maximum number of calls that the computerised network at the central could accommodate.

He stressed the need for co-operation by the public to help reduce the number of unnecessary calls.

The ministry intends to develop the existing postal services, recruit Kuwaiti graduates in the ministry's various service fields and allocate one post box for each family.

The ministry is also considering further expansion of its telephone network, and within the next five-year-plan 25 lines will be allocated to every 100 persons. The current number of allocated lines is 15, nevertheless the percentage is considered among the highest in the world, Ayoub said.



Cuban envoy at OAPEC

George Manfugas, Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba to Kuwait, paid a courtesy visit to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), yesterday. He was received by OAPEC's acting secretary-general, Abdelaziz Al Wattari.

Al Wattari briefed the Cuban ambassador on OAPEC's objectives, functions, and organs. Discussions covered the possibility of co-operation between Cuba and OAPEC-sponsored ventures specialised in the oil business. They also reviewed the energy situation in Cuba.

From the courts

Scholarship compensation

THE Administrative Court adjudged that a girl student and her father should pay an amount of KD2,770 to the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) for violating the terms of a scholarship contract awarded her by the institute.

The judgement resulted from a petition filed by KISR claiming that the girl was KISR's employee and was sent on a scholarship to the US to obtain a Masters Degree in Chemistry in 1981.

The petition said that the girl returned one year later after obtaining only a Diploma in Chemistry which resulted in the termination of her services and a call for reimbursement of funds provided for her scholarship.

The girl told the court that after obtaining the Diploma in Chemistry, she could not complete her studies because she got married in Kuwait.

However, the court in its deliberations considered that the father of the girl had undertaken a contractual obligation with KISR in which he pledged to pay the expenses in case his daughter violated the terms of the scholarship. As she had not obtained her Master's, the court adjudged in favour of KISR.

Vice den raided

DETECTIVES of the Criminal Investigation Department raided a coffee shop and arrested 76 persons of Arab and Asian origin allegedly found gambling, trading in banned films and engaging in other nefarious anti-social dealings.

According to reliable sources, it was reported that a man had lost KD80,000 gambling at the coffee shop and further the same coffee shop had previously been closed down for identical reasons.

No further details have been made available and investigations are under progress, a local daily said.

Strategic produce consideration

Wheat experiment for two more seasons

THE committee on following up and evaluating wheat agriculture in Kuwait has called for the continuation of the experiments for two more consecutive seasons.

The call to extend experiments on wheat agriculture in the country came along with other suggestions included in a report prepared by the committee on the occasion of ending the first

wheat harvesting season for the first time in the history of Kuwait.

In the report, the committee expresses results and evaluations which could be considered as an encouraging factor for initial experiments for the agricultural season 88-1989.

The follow up and evaluation committee include represen-

tatives from the General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait Flour Mills Company and others representing farmers from Abdali and Wafra where wheat agriculture is being conducted.

The report prepared by the committee this week is centred on information collected gradually from the inception of the wheat experiment as also data resulted from accurate and direct follow up of all operations. Experiment workers have provided the committee with up to date information concerning land preparations, seeds used, irrigation, harvesting, fertilisers and the type of equipment applied in the experiment.

Capabilities

The General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries has previously utilised technical and administrative capabilities for the wheat agriculture experiment starting from registering farmers who expressed their willingness in participating in the experiment on their land. A total of 96 farmers from Abdali and 146 farmers from Wafra participated in the experiment with a total land area of six million square metres. The total agricultural area was estimated at 5.2 million square metres, where only 3 million square metres failed the experiment.

The General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries continued distribution of fertilisers, seeds and guidance services all through the experiment since Oct 1988, in addition to visiting fields, and meeting with farmers. The last wheat produce was received during the middle of last June.

The yield of the Kuwaiti wheat season amounted to 769.6 tons, 364.4 tons of which were Abdali yield and 405.2 tons from Wafra farms, according to the data received by the Flour Mills Company.

Yield

Statistics also reveal that Wafra farmers have outpaced Abdali farmers in the size of the produce and on basis of per area unit. One thousand square metres in Abdali yield was 133.6 kilograms on the average, meanwhile a 1,000 metres square in Wafra produced 175.4 kilograms of wheat. Experts at the Agricultural Authority said that farmers in Wafra have paid more attention to directions and guidance than Abdali farmers.

Despite farmers' awareness towards the importance of wheat as a strategic produce, government support places more emphasis on producing vegetables and animal products until the last year, which encouraged farmers to direct their activities towards the supported sector.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

MAN is his own worst enemy — Cicero, Roman orator-philosopher (106 B.C. - 43 B.C.)

Summit papers over problems

Pact for greater tolerance

THE Warsaw Pact summit that ended yesterday papered over the increasing cracks in the Soviet-led alliance, but failed to resolve differences over democratic reform and ethnic disputes fuelled by century-old rivalries.

Echoing statements by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev over the past two years, the seven pact nations declared they would not interfere in each other's affairs, apparently excluding any repeat of an invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 that crushed Communist reform.

"There are no universal models of socialism, nobody is the holder of the truth," the nations agreed in a pact communiqué. Relations between Soviet bloc nations "should develop on the basis of equality, independence and each other's right to make its own political line, strategy and tactics, without any outside interference," it added.

Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, who refuses to have Soviet troops in his country and has long been a maverick in foreign policy, has insisted for years on such sovereignty for East bloc nations.

Under Gorbachev, the Soviet Union seems prepared to tolerate wide-ranging differences, co-operating with orthodox communists in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, while accepting the once-banned Solidarity union into politics in Poland and bracing for multi-party elections in Hungary next year.

Upsetting

Many Western analysts argue that Gorbachev has little choice but to upset at least some of his allied nations as the monolithic unity clamped on them by Stalinism is lifted.

If the Soviet Union means what Gorbachev says about non-interference, for example, it can scarcely revise its assessment of the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia without running the risk of upsetting Prague's current leadership, installed by Moscow after the Soviet invasion.

Faced with such difficulties, Gorbachev appears to be trying to shift the pact away from military affairs to political discussion.

This is in line with the Soviet leader's vaunted "new thinking" in foreign policy, but may prove difficult to achieve given the risk inside the pact.

Romania, for instance, seems determined to stick to its rigid rule with a centralized, state-run economy focused on mammoth projects rather than consumer needs and to keeping a tight rein on dissidents, who face jail, exile or constant surveillance if they criticize the government.

The policies have fuelled Bucharest's fierce feud with reform-minded neighbouring Hungary, which alleges Romania is mistreating its 1.7 million ethnic Hungarian citizens.

Enmities

The row over the ethnic Hungarians rests, however, on much older enmities over Transylvania, a mountainous area ruled by Hungary for centuries, awarded to Romania in 1920 but briefly handed back to Budapest during World War II.

It is now home to many of Romania's ethnic Hungarians and Ceausescu charges Hungary wants it back.

According to several Soviet bloc sources who asked not to be named, the individual East bloc rows did not come out at the plenary meeting during the summit, which one source called a "dialogue of the deaf" because pact leaders delivered prepared speeches but did not discuss each other's contributions.

Hungary and Romania also failed to come any closer at a separate meeting between Ceausescu and Hungarian Party Chairman Rezső Nyer.

And, while the leaders declared they would not "assume the position of judge or arbiter" in each other's affairs, it seems likely that recent attacks from East Germany and Czechoslovakia on Hungarian reforms will not soon abate.

Words and deeds are also far apart in the pact's declaration on economic relations.

Its criticism of trade barriers is directed mainly at Western restrictions on high-technology imports.

Dispute

But the Soviets, Hungarians and Poles almost certainly hope that yesterday's declaration that economics should not be dictated by "political or other considerations" could end an East bloc "customs war." The dispute was started by Czechoslovakia last November when it clamped serious restrictions on consumer goods exported by Soviet bloc tourists. All other allies followed suit.

However, much both East and West now think about radical disarmament in Europe, the move may not go ahead if the Warsaw Pact and NATO — cannot mend internal rows.

Verification and military inspection measures under discussion at talks in Vienna would provide each of the 35 nations that signed the 1975 Helsinki final act with unprecedented insight into each other's military deployments.

It is hard to imagine Hungary and Romania, or Greece and Turkey, agreeing to such sharing of security information under current conditions.

Gorbachev may have better luck at promoting more East bloc reform at the next annual Warsaw Pact summit, scheduled for Moscow.

As host nation, the Soviet Union will draft suggestions for the final document to be agreed at the session and will have more chance than it did in Romania to put the stamp of "new thinking" on its troubled alliance. (AP — Bucharest).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1559 — Mary Queen of Scots assumes title of Queen of England.

1584 — Francis Throgmorton, under arrest for plotting a Spanish invasion of England, is executed for treason. William of Orange is assassinated by Balthazar Gerard at instigation of Spain.

1609 — Catholic League of German Princes is formed at Munich under Maximilian, Duke of Bavaria, in opposition to Protestant Union.

1645 — Oliver Cromwell's army defeats British Royalists at Langport.

1810 — British forces take Ile de Bourbon and Mauritius in Indian Ocean.

1897 — French forces occupy Fashoda in the Sudan.

1911 — Russia warns Germany of her support for France in Moroccan crisis.

1943 — Allied Forces land in Sicily in World War II.

1953 — Soviet Minister of Internal Affairs L.P. Beria is dismissed.

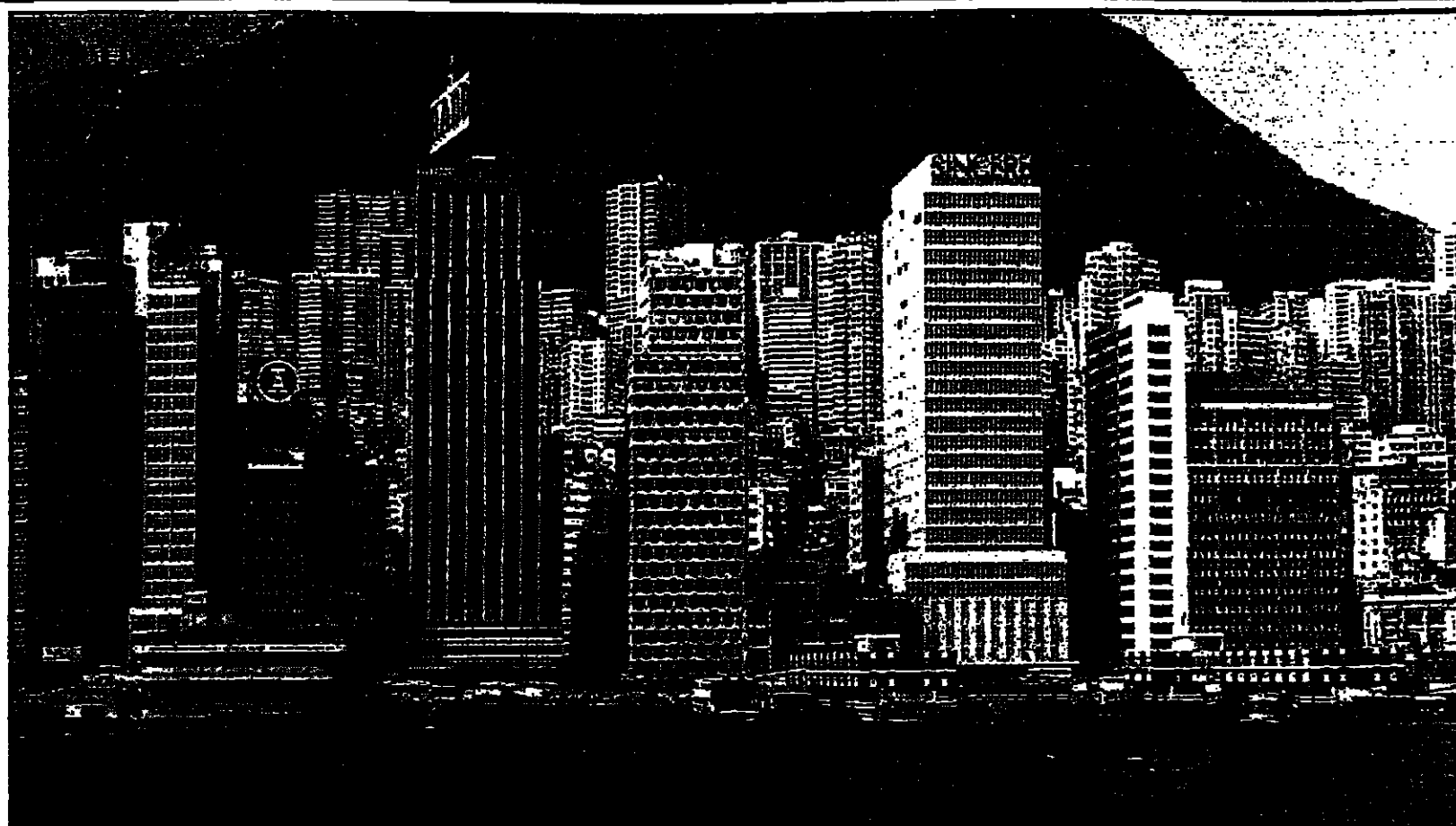
1964 — Moise Tshombe succeeds C. Adoula as Premier in the Congo.

1973 — The Bahamas becomes an independent nation, emerging from three centuries of British rule.

1976 — Four mercenaries — three of them British subjects and one an American — are executed by firing squad in Angola.

1987 — Presidents Francois Mitterrand of France and Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, in Geneva, stress need of international co-operation to stimulate world economic growth.

1988 — Israel soldiers kill a Palestinian during clashes and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin vows to "meet violence with violence."



Hong Kong: an exciting and ever-expanding concrete symphony

China's conduct causes confidence crisis

Hong Kong's future cloudy

TAN KWANG Long left a pharmaceutical plant, a five-storey home and the good life behind in Vietnam when the Communists won the war 14 years ago.

He thought he had found a new home in the British colony of Hong Kong, which reverts to Chinese control in 1997. Then Chinese soldiers crushed pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing, and he again is searching for a haven.

Television producer Nansun Shi was "just too busy for politics" before the crackdown. Now she heads a group teaching Hong Kong residents about democracy and human rights.

China's heavy-handed suppression of dissent has shocked the colony of 5.7 million and is changing the attitudes of its people.

Since the June 3-4 assault by the Chinese Army on protesters in Tiananmen Square, hundreds of thousands of residents have shed their political apathy and taken to the streets to protest the attacks and call for democracy in China.

More than 650,000 have signed a petition calling for the right to live in Britain, democratic reforms in Hong Kong and a bill of rights.

Callers to talk shows on Cantonese-language radio stations are proposing independence for the colony. Others, in desperation, urge Hong Kong to buy some islands and move its people there.

Some residents are working secretly to get dissidents out of China.

Zhang, Xuexin, a waiter at the Good Taste restaurant in the Happy Valley district, expressed the feelings of many:

"I'm terrified of what will happen when the Communists come. My whole family is, neighbours, too."

"I fled China during the Cultural Revolution. I swam here and risked my neck. After 1978 and Deng Xiaoping, I had a little hope. Then there was the massacre on Tiananmen. Now I know Communists will never change."

Zhang's fears aren't held solely by the Chinese community. Many of the 100,000 Westerners who live in Hong Kong also are worried.

"This is home," said 44-year-old Diane Harrison.

"I've spent half my married life here. I had one of my sons here. This is where I want to be. But if we don't leave now and it collapses around us after 1997, we might just be too old."

Under the provisions of a 1984 agreement between Britain and China, Beijing has promised to keep Hong Kong's capitalist system intact for 50 years after 1997. It also agreed to grant Hong Kong an unspecified degree of political "autonomy," which is being negotiated.

After the bloodshed in Beijing and the subsequent crackdown during which several Hong Kong students were detained for participating in the movement, many in Hong Kong lost faith in China to keep its part of the bargain.

Thousands are seeking to emigrate. But some, like Ms Shi, say they are willing to stay and fight.

Raised in a well-off family in Hong Kong and educated in Britain, she returned to the colony in her 20s. She went to work in public relations and soon began reporting on Hong Kong's high-society life for television. Later she moved to producing movies and TV shows.

"I never was political at all," she said. "I had a sense of what was right, but that covered all spheres. I just didn't think about politics. That's not what we were taught to do."

But the repression in Beijing changed her.

Shocked

"I was basically shocked, shocked so I couldn't speak," she said. "Possibly because it was such a simple issue, which is so rare these days. It's so black and white. It's so clear who was right and who was wrong."

After taking part in demonstrations, organizing a concert and working on a song for the movement, "For Freedom," Ms Shi began to notice that people knew what they were protesting against, but few knew what they were fighting for.

"We were shouting 'democracy,' 'freedom,' 'human right', but nobody knew what that meant," she said. "I figured I had to find out."

The result was a series of seminars by leading Hong Kong academics.

Nancy Lau, a nurse who sat through a recent Sunday of lectures at the Hong Kong Teachers' Association, said the programme opened her mind.

"It made me want to educate myself," she said, holding a notebook she filled during the seminar. "Our system teaches us how to be good workers but not good thinkers."

Some looked at the crackdown in Beijing as a good thing for Hong Kong residents.

"It woke people up. It taught the young people about the Communists," said 65-year-old cab driver Wang Qiao, who fled Shanghai in 1954. "They said the same thing in Shanghai in the 1950s. 'You can stay capitalist, we need your help.' All that stuff. Then they came in and took the factories away and locked up the capitalists. It's going to be the same story here."

With his old south Vietnamese passport, Tan said he doesn't have much hope.

"It gets so maddening," he said. "I struggled here for 10 years and finally am making a little money in real estate then this happens, the market goes soft and my wife starts telling me it's time to find a new country."

Although polls suggest at least half of Hong Kong's residents may still be content to stay, many people have since concentrated on finding a way out of the colony. Companies are re-examining their future in Hong Kong, said Robert Broadfoot, managing director of a business-risk consultant group.

Loss

A surge in the "brain drain," or emigration of skilled workers worried about life under Chinese rule, would lead to loss of local investment and personnel needed for a modern city to grow.

The government estimates 45,000 people emigrated in 1988, up from the average of 20,000 for the previous five years.

Sharp increases in immigration inquiries and applications were recorded last month by consulates of such popular destinations as Canada and Australia. Even smaller countries like Jamaica and Belize saw interest growing.

Those who do not have the money, skills or connections to get a passport are asking Britain to offer them refuge. Local officials insist that granting the right of abode in Britain is essential to restoring confidence among the colony's people, many of whose families fled China.

London has refused.

"There is simply no way that the British government could grant to several million people the right to come and live in Britain," British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said during a recent visit.

Howe, while stressing that Britain would take all measures possible to safeguard the colony, urged Hong Kong residents not to "underestimate your ability to build that future."

"Hong Kong has seen hard times before. You've always shown the resilience and the resourcefulness to live through such times and emerge from them stronger than ever before," he said.

A recent opinion poll indicated only six percent of residents would move to Britain in given the right. Chan argued that Beijing's pro-democracy movement had caused many to rediscover their Chinese identity.

Britain, which some residents say has not done enough for the colony, appears likely to speed democratic reform to give residents a greater voice in their future. Under the current system, the legislature is dominated by government officials and appointed members.

But Cheng, who long has fought for increased democracy, wonders what good it will do now.

"If Beijing is ready to crush the students with tanks and machine-guns, what's the point of having a democratic system in Hong Kong?" he said.

Others believe that continued support in Hong Kong for China's dissidents could be dangerous.

"Beijing leaders could perceive a political threat in Hong Kong outweighs economic benefits," Broadfoot said. "If Hong Kong refuses to keep out of China's political affairs, it could be extremely damaging."

Observers say the fall of the hardline leadership in Beijing, or enacting a bill of rights and redrafting the post-1997 constitution for Hong Kong could help the territory's success extend well into the 21st century.

But for now, Cheng said, "Almost everyone is very depressed."

The West will be forced to lift economic sanctions against Beijing within a few months to protect its own interests but China will never again receive the favoured treatment it has in the past, bankers and diplomats say.

They said Western nations and Japan had too much to lose in isolating China from the world economy but that its image had changed irrevocably with the military crackdown on student-led demonstrations on June 4.

In protest against the bloody massacre, the World Bank and Japan suspended loans, the United States banned military sales and European Economic Community put off new joint projects and reduced technical co-operation.

"Economic sanction will be short-term," said a Western diplomat. "For the West, a moderately wealthy and stable China is better than a poor, unstable China. Our stake here, in terms of loans, investments and contacts, is too large."

A Japanese banker said Japan had no choice but to continue its broad economic contacts with China. "Our banks and government have lent more to China than any other country. How is China to earn the foreign exchange to repay us?" he said.

The China Economic News Service said last month that the cost of servicing China's foreign debt would rise by next year to \$10 billion a year from \$7 billion currently.

The banker said that while investment by small and medium-sized Japanese firms would drop sharply in China because of fears over political stability, investment by large firms would not be affected.

"This is a long-term market for them," he said. "The West is already moderating its anger. Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said on June 28 China should be excluded temporarily from a proposed Asia-Pacific Economic Forum. But Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said in Brunei on Friday that Australia was keen to have China in the forum."

People's Daily said on Sunday that the State Department had approved the sale of four Boeing 757-200 passenger aircraft, just nine days after the sale of five Boeings to China was stopped by Washington.

"Since the 1970s, Boeing has sold commercial aircraft worth \$2.35 billion to China which remains an enormous potential market," the newspaper said.

Foreign Trade Minister Zheng Tuobin used a similar argument in an interview on US television in late June. (Agencies — Hong Kong)

Staving off starvation with arms

THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD Ramdhan was blown to pieces early in June when a live shell he had picked up on a defence testing range, blew up in his face.

He is one of several Indians who every year, driven by poverty, die while trying to make a living by collecting blanks from testing ranges and selling them in markets as scrap.

If some shells turn out to be live and become a death trap, it is a risk they have to take — just as they risk dying of hunger, anyway.

The death of scrap pickers, rarely reported in the press, is an irony that faces India — a country which spends a huge amount on arms to build up its defence capability and yet is unable to remove the poverty which makes people like Ramdhan pay with their lives.

Should a country with over a third of its population below the poverty line spend 14 per cent of its revenue on defence?

"Defence expenditure has always been treated as a sacred cow in India," says retired Rear-Admiral Satyendra Singh. "The time has come when we should question the defence budget with more circumspection than we have done so far."

But defence matters are rarely discussed in public and even members of India's Parliament accept the defence budget without a serious debate. In April last year, the Speaker of Parliament had to press the bell twice to summon members for quorum when the defence demands came up for voting.

This year India will spend US\$8,070 million on defence — about 4 per cent of the GNP — while agriculture, the mainstay of the country, gets US\$802 million. About 80 per cent of Indians live in villages where sanitation and drinking water are urgent issues, but the budget for rural development is only US\$1,170 million.

According to reports, India's armed forces — 1,362,000-strong — are the fourth largest in the world, coming after the Soviet Union, China and the United States. Since 1986, India has been estimated as the world's biggest importer of arms: it is now preparing to be an exporter.

The amount of money India is pouring into defence is "really distressing," says Sunderlal Bahuguna, a leading environmentalist and founder of the Chipko movement. "Real defence is in making people stronger by meeting their basic needs. There can be no better fortification than a happy and strong population."

According to Bahuguna, most of the problems of India can be solved by diverting part of the defence expenditure to development: "The main cause of Indian poverty is excessive spending on non-productive industry like defence."

Bahuguna's views are echoed by Rear-Admiral Singh who says that military debt servicing by India has reached about US\$700 million a year. "The most dangerous form of borrowing is for defence imports," he warns, "because, unlike investment in an industrial project, these bring no economic returns."

Disaster

In fact, some defence spending can turn into economic disaster as feared by the people of Bahawalpur — the site of a billion dollar national missile test range (NTR) on the east coast of Orissa.

The NTR project will devour thousands of acres of fertile rice-growing land and dispossess 50,000 villagers who annually earn some US\$34 million by growing rice and by fishing off the coast.

The people's agitation against NTR, now in the third year, is spearheaded by women who block the path of any military vehicle on the village roads. The government, anxious to avoid bloodshed, has put the project on hold.

The government says that NTR is meant to protect the country from external threats but, according to Professor Dherendra Sharma of the Jawahar Nehru University, the real threat to India is internal: poverty, droughts, floods, and diseases due to lack of sanitation and drinking water.

But not everyone agrees. Says A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, designer of India's intermediate-range ballistic missile "Agni", "aren't there poor people in New York? Why then is the United States testing Trident missiles?"

Another defence scientist, Dr V. Siddhartha asks, "why is the West worried about India's Agni when China has nuclear missiles that can hit American cities?"

India should keep its defence costs down but must not relax its security, says Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, Director of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis.

Quote me.

"I feel like I'm clothed in the armour of God and I'll go on as long as God wants me to and if he wants me killed, I'm happy to be killed." — Rev. Billy Graham quoted on receiving death threats.

"If a leader is put in a situation where he is not able to consult the people he represents, the people are not able to indicate they have any hope in what has happened." — Rev. Frank Chikane, secretary-general of South African Council of Churches and a spokesman of Mrs Mandela said during a press conference.

"This well-built, calm, smiling, shy man in his younger years was known for setting a record in beer drinking — which perplexed his later biographers. This typical American was like millions of others as they wrote about Yuri Gagarin." — Yaroslav Golovanov, a Soviet space journalist wrote in a magazine.

"The first human right is the right to truth." — Philippe de Villiers, member of parliament from Vendee said in a television programme.

"I always look at myself as an entertainer first. I don't want to pretend that I have some secret formula that I can offer for everyone." — John Lone, a Hong Kong-born cinema star said about his latest role as a political activist from China.

"It's just a game, even though a lot of us take it very seriously. Life goes on." — Ivan Lendl said after his defeat in Wimbledon.

"It's like being a Christian in the Roman circus." — Actress Tyne Daly discussing singing before 12,000 people in an outdoor amphitheatre.

"It's probably the most unromantic situation you'll ever find yourself in." — Actress Patsy Kensit on filming a love scene with sex symbol Mel Gibson.

"We hope that as America looks at this situation we will look not only at the politics of the re-election and of positioning, but just at the moral obligation to relieve our children of being at risk." — Rev. Jesse Jackson on visiting Palestinian Red Crescent Society.

N. Korea eases open its door

"THE American imperialists dropped 280,000 bombs on Pyongyang and said it would not rise again in 100 years," the air hostess intoned as our plane descended towards the North Korean capital.

Addressing Western reporters, businessmen and delegates heading for an international youth festival, she added:

"But our heroic people built a new Pyongyang and made it into a workers' paradise."

One of the most isolated and secretive countries in the world, North Korea opened its doors this week to 20,000 foreign delegates to the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students.

But it is not clear whether this means the start of a new look North Korea.

While overwhelmed by the personal friendliness of their Korean hosts and local people met in chance encounters, foreigners are still bombarded with virulent anti-Western propaganda and closely shepherded by official guides.

Some Western journalists, allowed into North Korea in greater numbers than before, have been obstructed by officials and police when straying from officially sanctioned events.

The festival, a showcase extravaganza meant to rival the 1988 Seoul Olympics boycotted by North Korea, was opened by 77-year-old President Kim Il-Sung last Saturday in a new stadium packed with

150,000 people.

Using rhetoric rarely heard in the communist world these days outside countries such as North Korea and Romania, Kim made his usual attack on the Western "imperialists."

"The old forces will become more cunning and wicked as their doomsday approaches," he warned.

A Scandinavian businessman visiting Pyongyang to set up a factory said such language did not bode well for potential Western investors seeking new markets. But he nevertheless detected a growing interest among North Korean officials in overseas projects.

Pyongyang has gone overboard to make a good impression on its 20,000 guests — building an avenue of hotels, new stadiums, laying on special flights and tours, stocking the shops and mustering an impressive display of politeness and welcome from the capital's two million citizens.

Just like their counterparts in Seoul during the Olympics, hotel staff have been given crash courses in English and can be heard murmuring phrases to themselves.

Senior North Korean officials insist nothing has changed when asked if the week-long festival, dominated by Communist countries since its inception in 1947, heralds a new policy of open-door reforms.

"It does not mean change," said Li Chai-Sin, vice-chairman of the state committee for cultural relations with foreign countries.

Pyongyang, he said, had no intention of following the political and economic reforms in its two closest allies — China and the Soviet Union. North Korea had had its own unique style of reforms since its founding under Kim in 1948.

Li and other officials also made it clear, however, that Pyongyang does want to mend its fences with the West.

"We have a joint venture law and have started a tourist industry," Li said in an interview. North Korea wanted to attract foreign investment but would not become reliant on outside help, he went on.

It was up to the West to respond to North Korea's overtures and establish ties, Li said.

"Already we have knocked on the door of the United States several times to discuss bilateral relations but so far they have not responded."

"We've opened the door to them they do not open it to us," Li commented.

Soviet and East European delegates to the festival, bringing a message of reformist changes sweeping the communist world, said they hoped their presence would have some impact on North Korea. (Pyongyang — Reuters)

Bashir optimistic on tripartite union

Meeting with rebels proposed

KHARTOUM, July 9, (AP): Speaking at his first press conference, Bashir said he has received positive signals from Egypt and Libya about his proposal for forming a tripartite union.

He however said that no practical steps have been taken yet in this regard.

The heavy-set 45-year-old leader, who is balding and has a moustache also said the main criteria for the new ministers he was to appoint are that they be competent, honest, loyal and not belong to any of Sudan's 36 political parties which he disbanded on charges of corruption.



Bashir speaks during a news conference in Khartoum. (Reuters wirephoto)

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Jerusalem film festival

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 9, (AP): The first Israeli movie on the Arab uprising and a short film directed by a Palestinian refugee were awarded first prizes at the 6th Jerusalem film festival, a jury member said Sunday.

The 10-day film festival, which ended yesterday, featured more than 130 films from 40 countries. The festival, however, awards prizes only to movies made in Israel.

The festival's international jury decided to award the first prize, \$35,000 to Isaac Zupel Yeshurun's "Green Fields," produced by David Tur, said jury member and film critic Yehuda Stav.

It was one of the five new full-length Israeli films screened at the festival.

"Green Fields," the first Israeli movie on the 19th-month Arab revolt in the occupied lands, tells the story of three generations of an Israeli family caught in the violence of the uprising.

Yeshurun, a well-known Israeli director, condemns his characters who accept violence as the only means of dealing with the revolt.

Official visit

CAIRO, July 9, (KUNA): Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr Ismat Abdul Meguid will pay an official visit to Yugoslavia on July 11 at invitation from his Yugoslav counterpart Budimir Loncar, Radio Cairo reported today.

Dr Abdul Meguid during the visit will discuss several topics concerning the upcoming Non-Aligned Movement summit, scheduled to be held in Belgrade next September, the radio added.

The two ministers will also hold talks on bilateral relations and ways of developing them in various fields.

AIDS prevention

ABU DHABI, July 9, (KUNA): The United Arab Emirates, alarmed at the increasing rate of local AIDS cases, unveiled today a thorough plan for preventing and combating the killer disease.

Health Minister, Hamad Abdulrahman Almadfa'a endorsed the plan today, saying it is designed to safeguard the state's subjects and the national work force against the spread of the AIDS disease by expatriates or imported merchandise.

The preventive scheme stipulates that all blood donors in the UAE be subjected to laboratory tests to ensure that they are AIDS-free.

The plan also prohibits the import from abroad of plasma, its derivatives and any drugs containing blood or its derivatives except through ministry licensing and supervision.

Mauritanian message

BAGHDAD, July 9, (KUNA): Mauritanian Presidential Envoy and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation Major Sheikh Sidiye Ould Ahmad Baba arrived in Baghdad last night, the Iraqi News Agency reported today.

Ould Baba said in an arrival statement that he carries a message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein from Mauritanian President Maouiya Ould Sid Ahmad Taya on bilateral relations.

Population curb

NICOSIA, July 9, (Reuters): Iran, where an estimated 7,000 babies are born every day, is to distribute contraceptives to try to curb the growth of its population.

Kurdish newspaper quoted a deputy health minister as saying they would be issued as part of a national plan to provide health services to 90 per cent of the people over the next five years.

Iran's former spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, ruled in 1979 that contraception was not un-Islamic but the issue received little official attention until recently.

Officials have now warned that Iran's social services could be swamped by one of the world's fastest-growing populations. The population was nearly 50 million at a 1986 census and growing by 3.2 per cent a year excluding refugees.

Jordanian expatriates

AMMAN, July 9, (KUNA): The fifth conference of Jordanian expatriates resumed meeting here today to discuss a political paper on Jordan's foreign policy.

Jordanian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qassem asserted that his country will not enter in any negotiations on behalf of the Palestinian people.

Speaking to the participants, Al Qassem added that Jordan will continue to support PLO efforts to take part in the peace process, indicating that the organisation is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Joong in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, July 9, (KUNA): South Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs Chai Ho-Joong arrived in Baghdad last night for a few days official visit, the Iraqi News Agency reported today.

During the visit, Joong will hold talks with Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz on bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern, the agency added, without elaboration.

Jibril discusses Lebanon with Velayati

NICOSIA, Cyprus, July 9, (AP): Ahmed Jibril, the leader of a radical Palestinian group conferred with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati in Damascus this week, Iran's official Tehran Radio reported yesterday.

This was the second meeting in Damascus in less than two months between Velayati and Jibril, who heads the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said later today that Jibril was among the Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian officials that flew back to Tehran with Velayati.

The group went to Iran to participate in the ceremonies

After the success of the military coup he led June 30, Bashir appointed himself head of the Revolutionary Council for the Salvation of Sudan, prime minister, minister of defence and supreme commander of the armed forces.

Bashir once again blamed ousted Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi for the strain in relations between Sudan and most of its neighbours and pledged closer relations with African and Arab countries.

"We are (now) better equipped to enter a tripartite union with Egypt and Libya," he said. "In our contacts with our Egyptian and Libyan brothers, we proposed this (unity) and initially we found acceptance from both sides but no practical steps have been taken so far because we have to give ourselves the chance to form our government and a decision of such importance has to be studied and planned."

On his efforts to solve the six-year-old civil war in south Sudan, Bashir said he had received no response from the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army to his peace initiatives.

Bashir has announced a one month ceasefire, a general amnesty and proposed a meeting in Addis Ababa between SPLA officials and the Sudanese ambassador to Ethiopia where the rebels maintain their headquarters.

He also offered to put sharia (Islamic) laws to a national referendum if no agreement on them was reached with the SPLA.

"We think we have taken practical steps, but we still have not received any answer," Bashir said.

He said the Nov 16 tentative peace agreement Mahdi approved shortly before his ouster under pressure from the Army, political parties and trade unions, was now void.

"What happened in the past from contacts is as though it never happened and we will not abide by it. We have a clear new vision to reach a solution which will satisfy all parties. We do not have any preconditions and do not accept any preconditions."

Nevertheless, Bashir said he expects the talks with the SPLA to be successful.

"We are soldiers. We understand each other because we speak the same language," he said.

In statements broadcast earlier in the day by the Arabic service of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Bashir said Mahdi would stand "a fair trial" but would be executed if sentenced to death by the court.

Mahdi, who has been in hiding since the June 30 coup, was arrested on Thursday and his trial is set to start within the next few days.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to release six Sudanese prisoners of war who were captured during the Gulf war, Foreign Ministry announced yesterday.

Renewal of ties unlikely

AMMAN, July 9, (KUNA): The head of Israel's mission in Moscow today ruled out the possibility of full resumption of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel in the near future.

In an interview last night with Israeli Television, monitored here, the Israeli diplomat expected an improvement in the Zionist entity's diplomatic relations with the rest of the Eastern bloc countries.

Israel is reportedly trying to restore full diplomatic relations with Moscow and strengthen its economic, trade, cultural and tourism relations with the Eastern bloc states, which in Israel's view represent a vast market and a main source of Jewish immigrants.

marking the 40th day since the death of Ayatollah Khomeini, said IRNA.

In Damascus, two discussed the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising and stressed the need for co-operation and unity among all the Muslim and national forces of Lebanon, Palestine and the progressive countries against their enemies, said Tehran Radio, also monitored in Nicosia.

Velayati, who is on his third visit to Damascus in four months, also conferred with Syrian President Hafez Assad and Iranian-backed Muslim Lebanese leaders.

Jibril has repeatedly denied that his group was involved in the Pan Am bombing Dec. 21 in which 270 people were killed. Iran has also denied any involvement.

Rafsanjani to face Sheibani in polls

NICOSIA, Cyprus, July 9, (AP): A member of Iran's one legal opposition party will run against parliament speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani in the July 28 elections, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

IRNA said the credentials of Rafsanjani and Abbas Sheibani, a former minister of agriculture and member of the freedom movement of Mehdi Bazargan, were approved by the Council of Guardians.

The 12-member council, which reviews all laws passed by the parliament, approved the two from more than 80 whose applications were accepted, said

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia.

It was not immediately clear if others would be approved.

IRNA also reported that the committee rewriting the constitution, to be put to the population as a referendum during the July 28 vote, had completed its work. The new constitution eliminates the post of prime minister and makes the president head of the cabinet.

Rafsanjani, who is also acting commander in chief of the armed forces and considered the most powerful man in Iran, is widely expected to win the race.

Sheibani is a 58-year-old doctor trained

in France, IRNA said. He was jailed several times for campaigning against the Shah's government.

He has been a member of the Majlis, or parliament, since 1981 and was also a candidate in the 1981 presidential elections.

He attracted the second-largest number of votes among the four candidates in that race, won by the late Mohammad Ali Rajai with 13 million of the 14.8 million votes cast, IRNA said.

He was agriculture minister in the provisional government lead by Bazargan that

ran the country for the first eight months after the Islamic Revolution toppled the government of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi in 1979.

Meanwhile, Iran's parliament today overwhelmingly approved the voluntary resignation of one deputy, Tehran radio reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said that Abdolkarim Sharpassand, the deputy from the northern town of Karadj had handed in his resignation. It did not say what had prompted the deputy's decision.



Mahdi detained in Kobar

Sudanese Army troops and civilians stand in front of the entrance to Kobar prison in Khartoum, where ousted Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi is detained after he was arrested on July 6. (Reuters wirephoto)

US fails to rap bus attack: Israel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 9, (AP): An Israeli official yesterday expressed "astonishment" over the US government's failure to condemn a bus attack in which 14 people were killed this week as terrorism.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, suggested the Americans failed to comment out of concern for their dialogue with the PLO.

In Thursday's attack on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway, a Palestinian man seized the steering wheel of a bus and forced it off the road into a ravine.

The Israeli official said Israel had been promised that the United States would only continue the dialogue if the PLO condemned acts of terrorism such as the bus attack.

He noted that PLO spokesman Ramez Abu Sharif, who spoke on Monte Carlo Radio station had stopped short of condemning the attack although he did express regret for the loss of life.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens summoned US Ambassador William Brown to Jerusalem to complain that the United States failed to condemn the bus attack as terrorism, a statement said.

The official also noted that even Moscow's Hebrew language radio service had referred to the bus incident as "terrorism against innocent people."

"There is astonishment and anger that such a clear case of terrorism has not been described as such by the US State Department," the official said.

He added that perhaps the US government was afraid to make such a statement for fear of disrupting its dialogue with the PLO.

The US reportedly angered by Israel's new conditions for Palestinian elections, may consider endorsing an international Mideast peace conference to break the impasse, State Department Secretary James Baker said.

Speaking in Oman to reporters travelling with him, Baker said, "If you can't make progress with this election proposal, then we would have to look a little bit more closely at the prospects for an international conference."

Speaking of Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's new conditions — no participation by East Jerusalem Arabs or PLO members and no possibility of Palestinian state, Baker added, "Does this drive us to an international conference formulation now? ... No. We think it is better to continue to work with this" current Israeli "limited elections" plan.

In Cairo Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat affirmed that Shamir's recent statements contradicted announcements of American President George Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker who had called for peace for land, ending the Israeli occupation.

Gunboats seize Lebanese yacht

Syrians shell coastal areas

BEIRUT, July 9, (Agencies): Syrian gunboats seized a yacht in Lebanon's territorial waters and Syrian gunners shelled coastal areas today, squeezing a four-month blockade of the Christian enclave despite peacekeeping efforts by the Arab League.

Police said Syrian artillery positions in north Lebanon fired sporadic barrages at the Christian enclave's coast near the port of Byblos after midday (0900 GMT) to prevent a ship suspected of carrying arms from docking.

No casualties were reporting from the bombardment. By police count, 403 people have been killed and 1,574 wounded since the March outbreak of the Christian-Syrian confrontation.

Lebanese Army helicopters staged reconnaissance flights over the country's territorial waters shortly after the boat was seized, the sources said.

The incident came as a visiting Arab League envoy, Lakhdar Al Ibrahim, appeared to have failed to mend fences between the warring factions and halt nearly four months of violence.

While the Muslims want political reforms to give them a larger share of power, the Christians want the Syrians to withdraw from the country before discussing inter-Lebanese disputes.

In West Beirut, meanwhile, rival Shiite Muslim militiamen aligned with Syria and Iran ignored a ceasefire appeal from the two nations and clashed in fresh street battles with machine guns, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades.

Police said thousands of sun-bathers were trapped on the sand beaches of south Beirut's Ouzai and Jnah districts as the fighting raged nearby.

Police said thousands of sun-seekers were trapped on beaches

in south Beirut's Ouzai and Jnah districts as fighting raged nearby.

Syrian troops in charge of security in Beirut's Muslim sector arranged a one-hour "mercy ceasefire" at sundown and evacuated the trapped beachgoers, a police spokesman said.

Many were taken in Syrian armoured personnel carriers to coastal villages south of the capital, while others were escorted back to the West Beirut as sniper fire crackled overhead, the spokesman said.

He said at least five people were wounded in the new flare-up, which came after the foreign ministers of Syria and Iran issued a new appeal in Damascus yesterday for a comprehensive truce.

That brought the overall toll to eight killed and 33 wounded in the current confrontation which erupted nine days ago between the mainstream Amal militia and the fundamentalist Hezbollah.

A spokesman for Gen. Michel Aoun's command said two Syrian gunboats intercepted the yacht with six Lebanese men aboard after it sailed from Kaslik harbour, before dawn.

"It is one of the numerous yachts based at Kaslik's Sporting Automobile and Yachting Club. It was escorted to an unknown destination," said the spokesman, who requested anonymity.

But the Christian-controlled Voice of Lebanon radio station said the yacht was taken to the Mediterranean naval base of Tartus in northern Syria.

The yacht's seizure came a few days after Aoun's command charged that Syria had dispatched naval gunboat reinforcements into Lebanon's territorial waters to escalate the siege of the Christian enclave.

The blockade is aimed at preventing arms supplies from reaching Aoun's 20,000 mainly Christian troops.

Afghan leader warns Benazir

Attack threatened

KABUL, July 9, (Agencies): Afghan President Najibullah has warned Pakistan that his troops might attack it if Islamabad continues arming mujahedeen rebels.

But Najibullah, quoted by the state-run Bakhtar News Agency yesterday, said that Kabul wanted an end to the 10-year-old civil war and sought friendly relations with Pakistan.

The Afghan foreign minister, meanwhile, reported that eight civilians were killed over the past two days in rebel rocket attack on Kabul.

"If the encroachments and interference of Pakistan against the Republic of Afghanistan do not stop, war may not remain in the limitations of Afghan territory," Najibullah told a group of Pakistani journalists on Friday.

"Its fire will infiltrate to Pakistan, then it will change into a regional conflict."

But Najibullah, whose troops are advancing on rebel positions close to the Pakistani border, said Afghanistan did not want to find itself obliged "to resort to counter-action" against Pakistan.

"The best way is a political solution which is in the interests of all people as well as peace and stability," he said.

He also said he wanted free elections bring to power a broad-based coalition government.

Benazir

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan said yesterday she believes most of the people of Afghanistan would like to see the resignation of Soviet-backed Najibullah, a move she described as pivotal toward a negotiated settlement.

Benazir, on a week-long visit to Britain during which she has had a series of talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other senior officials, made the remarks in an interview with Britain's Channel Four Television Network.

In the same programme Najibullah and Yuli Vorontsov, the Soviet ambassador to Afghanistan, said that contrary to world opinion, the government had remained in power since the Soviet military withdrawal.

"We don't see how the present administration is either secure, we don't see how they have offered anything new," Benazir said. "I don't believe that the people of Afghanistan want to continue with the present administration and I don't believe they will."

She said leaders of mujahedeen resistance groups based in Pakistan and Iran had not accepted the idea of the Soviet-backed Najibullah administration remaining in power.

"It is obvious that the present set-up is not acceptable to the vast majority of Afghan public opinion and it is its continuation which is the biggest stumbling block to a peaceful settlement," she said.

But Najibullah, accused Benazir of interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

"If I said today that I would only be prepared to negotiate if Benazir Bhutto resigned, wouldn't that be interference in Pakistani affairs? What people don't like for themselves, they shouldn't advocate to others," he said.

He warned Pakistan and the United States that if they wanted democracy, they should stop supporting the mujahedeen.

'Agreement possible'

Iraq lashes Iran

PARIS, July 9, (KUNA): Iraq's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said today that an agreement with Iran is possible if the post-Khomeini leadership proves its good intentions.

In an interview with the Paris-based "Kul Al-Arab," in its Monday issue, Aziz said that Baghdad had sensed that Tehran was still hesitant to reach a binding and comprehensive agreement. He indicated that the two countries have not held negotiations following the death of Ayatollah Khomeini last month.

He charged that Iraq and Iran had agreed upon a ceasefire but they have yet to go beyond this step. He accused Iran of hindering progress in the ongoing peace negotiations between the two countries.

The Iraqi ranking diplomat lashed out at the Soviet Union for furnishing Iran with arms. "We seriously believe that there is no reason for supplying Iran with weapons," he said, expressing doubts that the weapons would be used for defensive purposes.

He noted that Iran was in desperate need for better living standards for its nationals and not weapons.

On the Western anti-Iraq propaganda, regarding the treatment of Kurds, Aziz said that the government had decided to establish a 30-kilometre-long security zone along Iraqi borders with Iran and Turkey.

He added that the residents of border villages along this zone will be re-located, due to the dangers posed by Iran and the infiltrations and sabotage by pro-Iranian groups.

Population growth defies theories

Jordan's baby boom persists

AMMAN, July 9, (Reuters): "We're going to have six, seven, eight children," Jordanian van driver Mahmoud Masri says enthusiastically. "The Arabs love children."

His wife Fatima, nursing their 10-month-old son Ahmed, is pregnant again. Married for two years, they share a room in Mahmoud's parents' flat. They cannot afford their own on his 120-dinar (\$210) monthly wage.

Jordan's population, now three million, is growing by 3.6 per cent a year, which UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) figures show as the world's sixth highest growth rate.

UNFPA estimates that 4.5 million people will be living in Jordan by 2000 and 8.6 million by 2020.

In the Arab world only Syria and the Gaza Strip have higher population growth rates,

while Egypt, the most populous Arab nation, trails with 2.8 per cent.

Jordan's baby boom persists despite high levels of education and relative prosperity — factors which demographers say encourage a decline in birth rates.

Two in five school-leavers enter higher education, living standards compare favourably with Third World averages, and contraceptives are subsidised and widely available.

But traditional sex roles orient women towards high fertility. "Childbearing is still the woman's main function, the proof that she is a woman," said Adel Abu Nadi, director of Jordan's family planning association.

Men's social dominance prevents women from controlling the number of their pregnancies. Asked in a 1979 census how many chil-

dren they would like, Jordan women on average said four. But in 1988 the actual average was 7.2, according to UNFPA.

Since 1960 better health care has pushed the infant mortality rate from 135 to below 35 per 1,000 live births and raised life expectancy from 47 years to 67.

Political factors might operate among the kingdom's large Palestinian community, haunted by exile, wars and the unfolding struggle for statehood in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, scene of an 19-month-long uprising.

"There's definitely a current of 'they can't kill us all'," Fawzi Sahawneh, chairman of Jordan University's population studies programme said of the tendency of some Palestinians to see demography as a political weapon.

INDIAN VIDEO ROUND UP

Daata: blatant violence and mayhem

By Fathima Ahmed

Arab Times staff

SULTAN AHMED'S 'Daata' is like a fizzy drink without the fizz. It buzzes with clichés with each character vying for the dubious honour of being one up on the other.

The movie, apparently, tries to propagate national integration and brotherhood. In mid-way, it loses track of its own purpose and becomes a plain vendetta tale, replete with clichéd characters replaying the revenge tactics.

Daata's theme seems to have been inspired by "the pen is mightier than the sword" saying. The author (Saeed Jaffery) of a book called "Daata" is honoured at the elaborate ceremony and receives a symbolic gift: a coloured pen and gives it to his son (Mithun Chakraborty), who is an outstanding student and an upcoming poet. At this point, the inspiration gives way to blatant violence and mayhem.

Before everyone goes berserk, we do see some light romantic moments and the makings of an interesting saga, perhaps, with the son walking in his father's footsteps. No way!

Sultan Ahmed can't cope with his own ambitious project. The movie turns into a bizarre experience with the hero promptly taking up arms to avenge. What's new?

Perhaps, the attempt to inject national integration and

the moment showing the brotherly/sisterly ties between two families: one Hindu and the other Muslim.

It's only when Ahmed tries to bring the myriad problem of dowry that the theme goes haywire and he can't cope with the tumultuous turn of events. It's an emotional upheaval, which goes out of control as Mithun is transformed from an adorable boy next door to an outlaw gunning down people.

The events leading to Mithun's transformation are similar to those we have seen in other movies: a family made penniless by the village money-lender. Oppression is not a novel theme for Hindi movies. And Sultan unpretentiously exploits the theme.

Ahmed tries too hard to make a saleable movie, and in doing so, he compromises on the theme's credibility, like leading lady Padmini Kolhapure becoming a dancer to pay for her ill father's treatment. Yet, there are moments of poetic justice in which the money-lender pays for the atrocities he once committed. This could have been shown without Mithun having to take up arms.

Na-insaafi

Director Mehul Kumar's Na-insaafi (injustice) is a run-of-the-mill movie, trying to double-cross viewers into believing it is the most entertaining movie of the year. At best, it can get the "least moving film of the year award." We have seen stereotypes. Billa (Amritha Pur) is one of them, the criminal who takes Bombay by storm. As the movie progresses, he becomes Daaga, a so-called respected member of society who, thankfully, does not make speeches at charity shows. He mumbles "God have mercy on me" and bails out criminals.

Another stereotype is CID Inspector Vijay Sinha (Shatrughan Sinha), who tells us he became a detective to find the man who cut off his father's arm. That man, as we know, would be Billa.

Judge Sinha (Om Shivpuri) had sentenced him to life imprisonment but Billa breaks out of jail, and promptly does his bit at Vijay's birthday party.



Sharmila Tagore

But there is neat little twist in the theme which makes it worth our while to sit through the slayings and song-and-dance routine.

Kashmir Ki Kali

Shammi Kapoor was considered to be the romantic hero of the 1960s. His movie, Kashmir Ki Kali, has the fragrance of the Kashmiri pines. It's like a breath of fresh air in the violent 1980s, when every movie must have a substantial dose of mayhem to make it credible, at least as far as the movie-makers are concerned.

Kashmir Ki Kali is the story of a prince who falls in love with a beautiful girl in the valley of Kashmir. A simple enough story line, with just the right amount of villainy to reserve our sympathy for the romancers. It has an exceptionally good background musical score. Shammi Kapoor was at the peak of his career and makes a watchable hero. Sharmila Tagore looks fresh and vibrant. It's just the sort of movie that takes your mind off the humdrum of life.

The above movies are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya, Tel: 471-2900 and Falcon Video, Abbasiya.



Shatrughan Sinha

fee shop where you enjoy all kinds of delicious food. Continental dishes, mezzah, special sweets and Arabic ice-cream. A unique ambience with the most celebrated magician in town. A gift for every child. Fun for the whole family with Walt Disney characters. KD3,000 per child, KD4,500 per adult.

Louwah corner: Featuring delights of Arabic ice-cream with nine different flavours specially made for the Kuwait Plaza by Syrian experts. Also offers jumbo size of all sorts of sandwiches ranging from the famous Lebanese 'farrouj' chicken with garlic to steak sandwiches with the Plaza special touch. The famous oud player Fawzi Jamal who sings the best of the good old days songs. A special 4 course lunch for only KD2,500.

Marco Polo: Enjoy the authentic Italian atmosphere which makes you feel that you are in the heart of Rome. Taste the real Italian lasagne and spaghetti with the largest size of pizza and savour your favourite Italian dishes while you are listening to Stan and Alice, the famous duo in town.

At the Kuwait International

A 3-DAY Eid Programme presents:

La Palma: Extensive Lebanese mezzah, Oriental and Continental cuisine. Open for lunch and dinner. Ext 8166.

Faillaka: The rooftop restaurant presents a celebration menu. Promises to be a gourmet's delight. Open for dinner only. Ext 8012.

La Patisserie: Will serve mouthwatering snacks and exotic juices. Eid takeaway cookies on sale. Ext 8014.

At the SAS

WELCOME on board Al Boom. Dine on our delicious mezzah buffet followed by your favourite speciality from our wide selection of fine charcoal grills and finish off with della coffee or have a puff from the hubb bubble/pipe. Dinner daily and lunch every Thursday and Friday. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

At the Meridian

UNTIL July 31: Ice cream promotion at Al Waha Restaurant in the Saliya Complex.

At the Ramada Hotel

EL BENDAR coffee shop at the Ramada Hotel offers continental and Arabic buffets daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 12 mid night daily, a la carte also

available. A selection of home baked cakes, gateaux and tarts made to order.

Ramada Al Salam lobby lounge open 10 am to 11 pm on Sundays offering a selection of coffee, tea and juice, cakes and pastries available.

At the Meridian

HOTEL Meridian Kuwait features special weekly promotion at La Brasserie restaurant: Asian Corner every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes, in addition to the regular buffet, will be featured. Tempura, fried noodles, etc. are prepared in front of the guests and served on the spot.

Mexican Night every Sunday: Discover the delight of Mexican cuisine awaiting you in our 'Little Mexico'.

Greek Tavern every Tuesday: Experience authentic Greek ambience and food with live Bouzouki music and wide variety of mezzah.

Enjoy an evening of foot tapping fun every Thursday. Remy and Tony's jam session in La Brasserie.

Family day every Friday: Enjoy a day with your family. La Brasserie offers a wide array of Oriental favourites along with live music, entertainment, and a magician to thrill the little ones and many other games for the children.

At the Messilah Beach

AL MUBARAKIAH, the only 24 hour restaurant in Kuwait, offers a full spectrum of local and Continental specialties with daily buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner plus a la carte menu.

Al-Jawharah Super Night Club: Live entertainment by the resident "Rainbow" band with extensive a la carte menu on Wednesdays and special buffet on Thursdays.

Al-Berdowneh beach garden restaurant open daily Sunday to Friday offering a variety of succulent charcoal grills, Lebanese mezza, freshly baked Markouk bread and Hubb Bubble.

SPORTS

Windsurfing contest

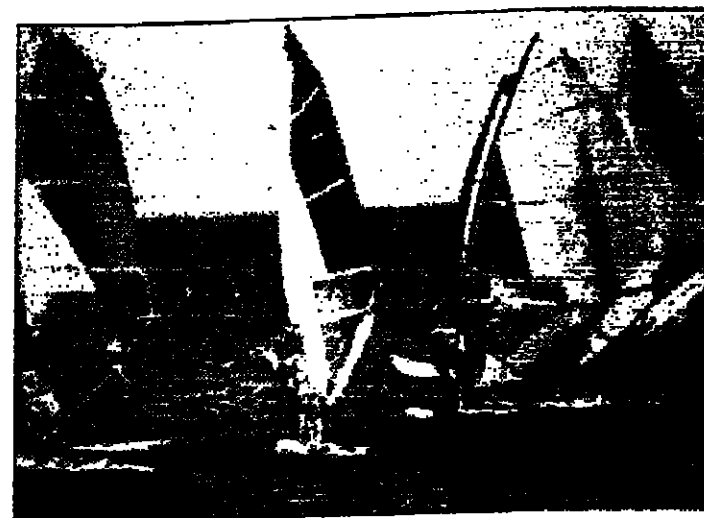
JULY 14: Messilah Beach Hotel is hosting a windsurfing contest for all sailors in Kuwait. Entry forms available from the recreation office. Race entry at KD 2/- per contestant. Three classes 320, 345 and 370. For any further information contact Ken Balman on 5624111 ext 739/751.

Open Windsurfing Regatta

UNDER the sponsorship of Sayafi Marine, Messilah Beach Hotel will host an Open Windsurfing Regatta on July 13 and 14. The races will be open to all windsurfers in Kuwait at an entry fee of KD2/- . It will be an Olympic course racing event and will be subject to all Royal Yacht Association (RYA) fun-boarding rules.

Programme of events: Thursday 13.7.89, 13.00 hrs 1st race briefing; 15.00 hrs 2nd race briefing.

Friday 14.7.89, 11.00 hrs 3rd race briefing, 13.00 hrs 4th race briefing, 15.00 hrs 5th race briefing, 17.00 hrs Prize Giving (Best 4 races to count) 3 races will be applicable depending on the length of the board: 320 (320 cm - 328 cm), 340 (328 cm - 358 cm), 370 (358 cm and up).



Prizes will be donated by Sayafi Marine for the 1st places in each category. For further

information contact Ken Balman on 5624111 ext 739/751/109.

Al Wattari receives envoys

THE ambassador of the Republic of India to Kuwait, Nagendra Jha, paid a farewell visit to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) on Saturday.

He was received by OAPEC's acting secretary general, Abdelaziz Al Wattari.

As the next Indian ambassador to Yugoslavia, Jha discussed with Al Wattari the forthcoming non-aligned summit conference in Belgrade.

Al Wattari praised India's energy policy and its close relations with OAPEC member countries. He noted that its extensive efforts to develop endogenous resources have transformed the lives of a large section of the population. He wished Ambassador Jha success in his new posting and expressed the hope that OAPEC would continue to strengthen its ties of co-operation with India.

Meanwhile, George Manfugas, the Cuban ambassador to Kuwait, paid a courtesy visit to OAPEC today where he was received by Al Wattari.

Al Wattari briefed the Cuban ambassador on the Kuwait-based OAPEC's objectives, functions, and organs, an OAPEC release said.

The discussions covered the possibility of co-operation between Cuba and OAPEC-sponsored ventures specialised in the oil business. They also reviewed the energy situation in Cuba.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and variety
- 9.30 Ifrah Ya Simsim: Children's programme
- 10.00 Magazine d'Actualite
- 10.15 Al Hob Wa Essabar: Arabic serial (Part 3)
- 11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and variety
- 11.20 Al Nisr Wa Ayoun Al Madina: Arabic serial (Part 19)
- 12.00 Sabah Al Khair News and variety
- 12.35 Cultural film
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 The World Today via Satellite
- 1.30 Flouma: cartoon serial
- 2.00 Variety
- 2.15 Al Shams Baad Al Ghoyoub: Arabic serial (Part 6)
- 3.00 Mawsoot Al Sona Al Nabawiya: Religious programme
- 3.30 Bibi Folk and Calimiro: cartoon serial
- 4.00 Robban Al Sahra: historical serial (Part 3)
- 5.45 Children and Summer: local programme
- 7.00 The World of Tomorrow: Cultural programme
- 7.30 Variety
- 7.45 Holy... Quran and Science: prepared and presented by: Dr. Ahmad Shawqi Ibrahim
- 8.30 Hawl Al Alam (Around the World)
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 10.00 Al Tach: daily Arabic

serial (Part 3)
11.30 Ihimalat: Cultural programme.

12.35 News Summary
1.00 The World Today via Satellite

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Scheme of Things: a look at forests and trees and how they benefit mankind.
- 7.00 Roving Report: a weekly report of regional and world news.
- 7.30 Charles-in-Charge: Charles has to deal with sibling rivalry in tonight's episode.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Haj and Umra: a special programme, presented by Dr Abdul Monam
- 9.00 Paradise: "Secrets." Fear of death spreads after a person dies mysteriously.
- 10.00 Indelible Evidence: based on true incidents, it recreates the story of a man who was separated from his parents and dies in mysterious circumstances.
- 10.30 Jack and Mike: Journalist Jackie deals with her husband Mike's old girl
- 11.45 News Summary: Magazine d'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon, 4 to 7.00 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Tareq Rajab Museum
Sat-Thurs.: 9-12 noon and 4-7 pm. Also open on Fridays from 9 to 12 noon.

Social

Red and Black Nite
THE Red and Black Nite will be held on July 12, and not July 11 as previously announced. Raven Tantri of the Weekend said the venue will not change. It will be held in the Shaikha Ballroom, Regency Palace Hotel. Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers and Stepping Stones in attendance. Highlights: selection of Red and Black couple; original costume and live contest. For reservations call Hilary - 5741380; Julio - 5734513; Mercedes - 4890566; Raven - 2401803/804.

Bangladesh Association
JULY 21: The association invites all Bangladeshis to join the Bangladesh Library as founder/life members. Those who are interested can contact any executive member of the association on July 21 from 6 to 8 pm at the embassy premises. A meeting will be held at the embassy premises on August 4 to discuss the formation of the library.

United Goans
AUG 3: Summerbelle '89 is about to happen. United Goans Centre present "Top Ranks and Stepping Stones" in a music-saturated evening at the Tent SAS Hotel. Crowning of Summerbelle, various competitions, etc. to keep you on your toes. For details contact: Moses 2454266, Joe 5655140 Anicet 2439249 after 6 pm.

Farewell pictures

Photographs taken at the farewell reception for outgoing Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha, organised by the Indian community, are available from Sami Farooqi. Those who are interested in getting a copy of their contact Tel: 2446489.

Independents Ball

AUG 17, 8.30 pm onwards at Messilah Beach Hotel. Music by Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers. Organised by Kuwait Independents Hockey. For tickets and details call Shree Bajaj (2445825) or Flaviano D Mello (2421252) after 7.30 pm.

Kapilku Children's Contest

AUGUST 18: Kapilku will hold the Little Mr and Ms. Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Kuwait Plaza Hotel. This coincides with Araw ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). Last date for submitting entries is July 28. For details contact Jojo Medrano, AYP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosafe Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang - Tel: 483447.

Tivim Centre

OCT. 26: Tivim Centre's Breeze 89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam Hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Lot of surprises await. For further information contact the organisers.

Eid Prayers

THE Bangladesh Association will hold the Eid Al Adha prayers at the Bangladesh embassy at 7 am. All Bangladeshis are invited.

D'Assisi Social Evening

AUG 1: D'Assisi Association will hold their social evening at the Messilah Beach Hotel. The highlights of the evening will be the crowning of D'Assisi Queen. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones will provide the music. For more information contact Joe Jack Ferns on 5644178, Henry 3717346 or contact A.M. Fine Armst. Shop No. 34, Al Kar-nak Super Market, near GPO, Kuwait.

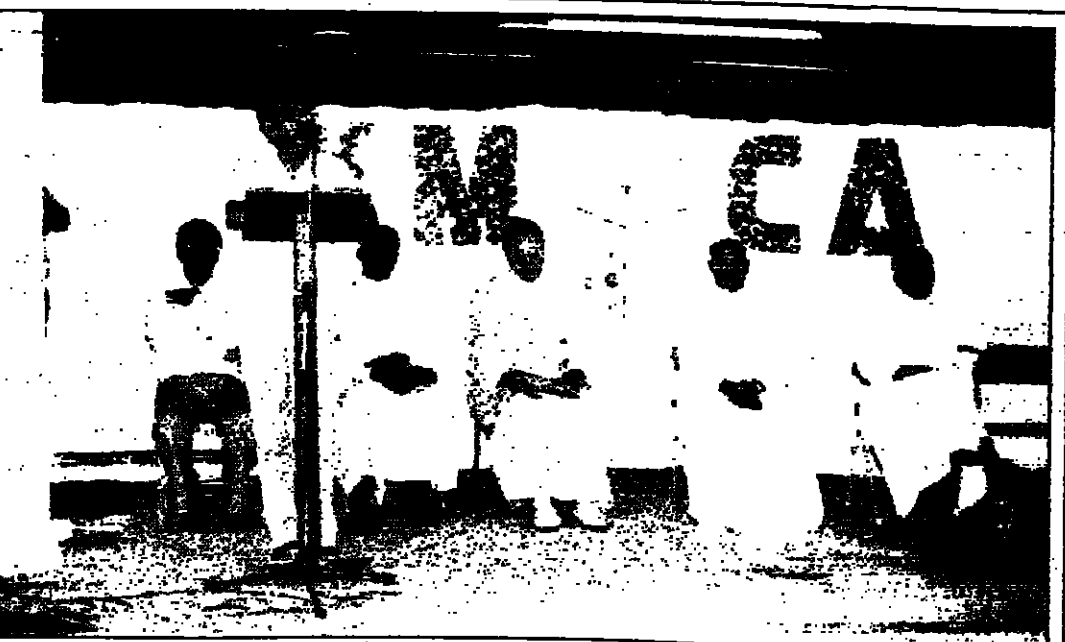
HOTELS

At the Kuwait Plaza

Enjoy the fun: join the celebration of fun and games every Friday at Al Dallah coffee



A scene from Charles-in-Charge on KTV 2 at 7.30 pm today



Farewell party

A farewell reception has been organised by Kuwait Malayalee Catholic Association at the Kuwait Parish Hall on June 30 for Rev. Fr. Cyril Karimundackal, who is returning to India after serving the Parish for the last six years in Kuwait. Picture shows Fr. Cyril sitting second from right and Varghese Gee, first secretary of Indian embassy giving a farewell speech.

NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait
- Al Watan Pharmacy
- Fahd Al Salem Street
- Al Hakem Pharmacy
- Sharq, Jaber Al Mubarak Street
- Hawalli and Nagra
- Al Rihab Pharmacy
- Hawalli, Tunis Street
- Salmiya and Rumaythiya
- Phoenicia Pharmacy
- Salem Al Mubarak Street
- Fahadheel and Almadad
- Al Sheeba Pharmacy
- Fahadheel
- Jleeb Al Shiyoukh
- Al Ayoub Pharmacy
- Souq Shiyoukh Complex
- Jahra
- Al Khaled Pharmacy
- Opp. to Jahra Co-op.

CINEMA

- Al Andalus
- Arabic film
- Al Sahiya
- Gragnet
- Al Hamra
- Raising Arizona
- Al Firdous
- Nafat Ki Aandhi
- Starring: Dharmendra, Anita Raj
- Drive-In
- Arabic film

Fahadheel Open Air

Sachche Ka Bol Bala

Al Fahadheel

Mutant

Al Jahra

Booby Trap

Granada

Extreme Prejudice

Al Sulabikhat

Raiders of Paradise

Al Jleeb

Awaaz

Ahmad Drive-In

Halloween III

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.22 am
Zohr	11.53
Asr	3.27 pm
Maghreb	6.51
Isha	8.21

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Italian Trade Commission to hold seminar

Italy seeks more Kuwaiti investors

By M.C. Bose
Business editor



Roberto Luongo

THE changing image of today's Italy is a result of its rapid economic growth. After twenty years of sustained and stable growth by the end of the 1960's Italy had reached sixth place in terms of national income among industrial economies and fifth place in terms of manufactured goods exports.

During this decade, the economy has grown 20 per cent in real terms — one of the highest rates in Europe.

Roberto Luongo, Italian trade commissioner, Kuwait told the Arab Times in 1988 Italy has confirmed its position as the fifth largest supplier to Kuwait with exports totalling \$323 million, an increase of 7.6 per cent compared to 1987.

Luongo said Italy's share of Kuwait market in 1988 stood at 6.5 per cent. The value of its imports from Kuwait, mostly crude oil and gas has reached \$468 million.

He said the main Italian exports to Kuwait are gold jewellery, machinery, furniture, shoes, clothing, marble, building materials, bathroom accessories and leisure boats.

Several projects have been executed by Italian firms in the last few years, such as motor-

ways, electric power stations, telecommunications and commercial buildings.

He added: Interesting opportunities are also in the tourism sector. Italy is well-known for its resorts like lakes, beaches and mountains in the north as well as in the south. In fact Italy is one of the most important tourist destinations not only during the summer but also in the other seasons.

"For the said facts Italy is becoming — also in the financial and investment field, a reliable partner for the Kuwaiti investors, public and private. In this regard the Italian Trade Commission in co-operation with the Italian embassy is planning to organise a seminar on investment opportunities in Italy shortly," Luongo said.

Luongo said Italy also offered its technological expertise in various oil and heavy industry projects. The country is also particularly involved in Kuwait's industrialisation drive and some firms have been working on a joint venture basis with several Kuwaiti manufacturing sectors.

He added other fields in which both countries can further strengthen are investments and finance. It is a well-known fact that the Italian market, because of its population and its per capita

income, is one of the largest in the world.

It has a high rate of growth and is extremely open to trade with foreign countries. First among these sectors are consumer goods (textiles, clothes, furniture and footwear) where the Italian manufacturers have achieved increases in productivity well above those recorded in other OECD countries. Improvements in productivity and efficiency also began to have favourable effects on macro-economic equilibrium.

The effectiveness of monetary policy is also to a large extent, linked to the central role of the banking system within the coun-

try's financial structure.

The consumer price index advanced 0.4 per cent from April and was up 6.8 per cent from a year earlier, the biggest year-to-year rise since March 1986, when prices gained 7 per cent. May's increases comes after a 0.7 per cent monthly rise in April, when prices gained an annual 6.7 per cent.

Italy's trade deficit widened to 1.663 trillion lire (\$1.2 billion) in April from 665 billion (\$460 million) a year earlier. But the gap narrowed from L3.229 trillion in March.

The interest shown by foreign investors has also spread to the stock exchange. "The opening of foreign currency financing options is certainly a relevant factor in the corporate finance sector. Big industrial groups such as Fiat, Olivetti, Pirelli and Montedison have long had Swiss and Luxembourg financial vehicles that they have used for global financing, but other corporate entities are also trying to raise more funds overseas."

In order to encourage the setting up of new industries and the expansion and modernisation of existing plant, special financial and tax relief has been arranged in favour of manufacturing companies with a capital of up to L8,000 million which aims to

implement investments up to 4,000 million per factory.

Talking about corporate legislation and features of Italian companies the trade commissioner said, in Italy the companies in the field of industry, intermediary of goods, banking, transport and insurance must be constituted as general partnership, limited partnership, joint stock company limited by shares, unlimited company and limited company.

He said "companies, whatever their form and activity, are subject to tax charges both at the moment of their incorporation and on the basis of their operations."

The Italian tax system is mainly based on two types of personal taxation — tax on income of individuals, tax on the income of companies, the proceeds of which belong to the government.

Branches of foreign companies at the time of incorporation and in the course of their operations, are liable to the same forms of taxation as are provided for Italian companies.

Talking about investment in productive enterprises, he said this law greatly favours direct investment aims at setting up or expanding productive enterprises.

Luongo said "to encourage the industrialisation and the expansion of the depressed regions in the south of Italy and the islands, important legal provisions have been enacted. In the areas declared as depressed by CIPE (Interministerial Committee for Economic Planning), small and medium-sized firms are able to obtain from medium term institutions, reduced-rate financing for the construction and expansion of industrial plant. Good opportunities are for instance in the industrial fields like clothing and food processing."

Italy, with L5,707 billion (\$4 billion) of 1988 exports, remains the leading clothing exporter among the industrialised nations that include Europe, the USA and Japan. In global terms, Italy is the second biggest exporter in the world after Hong Kong. Luongo said that Italy's food processing industry continued to invest heavily. Last year the pasta sector spent L175 billion on new plants, a 9.4 per cent increase on 1988. Investments amounted to L183 billion in meat processing, L260 billion in vegetable processing, L260 billion in mineral water and L530 billion in cakes and confectionery. Investment is expected to increase by 8.4 per cent this year and 6.8 per cent in 1990.

Portugal ready to join EMS

LISBON, July 9, (Reuters): Poor Portugal, Western Europe's economic weakling would love to join the European Monetary System (EMS) but it simply can't afford to.

While Britain frets about losing sovereignty to Brussels in the new-look Europe of the 1990s, Portugal has few such qualms. But its economy is just not in the same league.

Independent economists agree with Portugal's Centre-Right government that early entry into the EMS, which links European Economic Community currencies in a semi-fixed grid, could disastrously tie the hands of an economy striving to modernise rapidly.

"To hurry the process would be detrimental," said Nigel Hugh Smith, an economist who tracks Portugal for London stockbrokers Hoare Govett. "Premature entry could limit its potential to grow more rapidly and make industry more competitive."

There are many officials in Brussels, Bonn and Paris who think British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher means "never" when she says London will join the EMS "when the time is right."

The think she has old-fashioned fears of London being subservient to Brussels in the quasi-federal economic powerhouse they envision for Europe in the next 20 years.

But there is no doubting Portugal's sincerity when officials say that Lisbon will tie its escudo currency to the EMS when the time is right. Bankers believe it could be in three years.

All 12 EEC members nominally belong to the EMS but Portugal, along with Greece and Britain, is not part of the mechanism which sets fluctuation limits on currencies.

Portugal, which joined the EEC in 1986, said it would speed work on monetary union in line with decisions taken at last month's EEC summit in Madrid.

There are good reasons for Lisbon joining the EMS, and equally good reasons for the government to bide its time. Portugal's economy is so far behind its EEC partners that at present it would be like putting a dusty old car on a modern highway.

Officials believe that when the economy is more stable and does not need to grow so quickly to catch up with the rest of Europe, EMS membership would be beneficial.

Plastic money

MOSCOW, July 9, (Reuters): Residents of the Estonian City Tartu are set to enter the age of "plastic money" from October 1 under a joint venture between the Savings Bank of USSR and Visa, the newspaper Trud said yesterday.

The cards will be available elsewhere in Estonia during 1990 and throughout the country later, it said.

Visa cards, which allow the electronic transfer of funds from buyer to seller, will reduce costs throughout the banking system, the newspaper said.

Under the current system it costs the state 10 roubles to process every 100 roubles' worth of banknotes, Trud said.

Britain gears up for series of strikes

LONDON, July 9, (UPI): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has ordered her ministers of transport and energy to ensure key supplies reach the public as Britain gears up for a series of strikes this week by railwaymen, dockers and white collar workers, a government spokesman said today.

In a situation viewed as potentially the most serious industrial unrest since a year-long miners' strike in 1985, the spokesman said that although "we have not reached a crisis point yet, the government is making sure it is kept fully informed of developments."

Railwaymen seeking more pay have extended a series of 24-hour train and subway strikes on Wednesday to an overtime ban starting tomorrow which officials said could result in the cancellation of up to 500 trains a day.

Besides the traffic chaos caused by the weekly 24-hour rail strikes, the country's trade could be affected by a vote of Britain's 9,400 registered dockworkers to start an indefinite strike at midnight tomorrow over a government move to scrap a 1947 scheme guaranteeing their employment and wages.

Half a million Town Hall municipal workers have voted in favour of strikes on Tuesday and Wednesday, and unions of the British Broadcasting Corp. have decided to stage a 24-hour strike July 28 after a pay dispute reached a deadlock at the weekend.

The spokesman said day-to-day monitoring of the situation will be the responsibility of Norman Fowler, employment secretary, and Paul Channon, the transport secretary.

"The main duty of the government is not to get directly involved in pay disputes," the spokesman said.

"The government has to make certain that as many people as possible can get to work, which is why the Ministry of Defence was brought in last week to bring down parking tracks in city parks. The government also has to make sure there are no food and fuel shortages and keep track of exactly how things are running. This is not a crisis, and contrary to some newspaper reports today, the government has not set up a cabinet crisis committee to oversee things."

Joint ventures may threaten environment

MOSCOW, July 9, (Reuters): A leading Soviet economist has accused multinational companies of exporting pollution to poorer countries and has demanded a referendum on the desirability of joint industrial ventures in the Soviet Union.

Valentin Katasonov, writing in the latest edition of the influential weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta, said multinational companies sought to set up joint ventures in less-developed countries to evade tough pollution controls at home.

He also urged a freeze on talks on industrial joint ventures at least until the Soviet Parliament had passed new laws to protect the environment.

"International Monopolies follow a double standard on ecological policy," Katasonov said. "At home they meet the strictest demands for protection of the environment and people's health, but abroad, especially in countries lagging behind economically, they ignore elementary precautions."

Citing industrial accidents in developing countries, including the disaster in Bhopal, India, he accused Western companies of "ecological colonialism."

"They impose on the developing countries ecologically dangerous production, ageing and 'dirty' technology, and build there dangerous factories and energy facilities," he said.

He said there was no central Soviet body to regulate the activities of the more than 500 registered joint ventures, especially with regard to air and water pollution.

"The most serious danger lies in the coinciding desires of the International Monopolies to economise here at the expense of the environment ... and the interests of some of our departments and bureaucrats."

Katasonov singled out petrochemical projects for closer scrutiny, including the big Tengiz oil field project, led by a consortium of US, Japanese and Italian firms, and Occidental Petroleum's proposed plastics operation in the Ukraine.

Mexico, Venezuela to pursue projects

Foreign debt biggest obstacle to growth

CARACAS, Venezuela, July 9, (AP): Massive foreign debt are the biggest obstacles to development in Mexico and Venezuela, according to the presidents of both countries.

Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, in Venezuela on a two-day state visit, was the guest of honour at a state banquet last night. Economic integration and the foreign debt were the main themes stressed by both Salinas and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez in toasts.

Salinas arrived in Venezuela yesterday on his first state visit overseas since assuming the Mexican presidency early this year.

"We chose Venezuela for our first trip abroad to show that we are looking southward in our push for integration," he said. Salinas saluted Perez for his "bravery" in undertaking economic reforms shortly after assuming leadership in his country.

Both Perez and Gortari are pushing to decentralise their economies and open them up to market forces.

The two agreed that the foreign debt was their biggest obstacle to economic growth.

Mexico and Venezuela both depend on oil revenue through their respective state companies, Petroleos Mexicanos and Petroleos de Venezuela.

But Venezuela is a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, while Mexico is not.

There has been increasing pressure inside the two countries to form a separate Latin American oil exporting organisation, with oil industry experts in Venezuela claiming that the Arab oil-nations use OPEC to further their own aims and put others to the side.

The so-called treaty of San Jose was signed between the two countries in 1980 to sell oil at below market rates to nations such as Nicaragua that suffered the ravages of civil war.

They are expected to make calls to the industrialised nations for expedited action on debt reduction prior to the Paris summit meeting of the Group of

Corruption charges swirl

CARACAS, Venezuela, July 9, (AP): Day after day, year after year, Venezuelans read or hear of official corruption. But not a single person has ever been convicted, at least not one from the political establishment.

"Normal in Venezuela is to take advantage of a political position to obtain personal benefits and become rich," said author Arturo Uslar Pietri. "Those who don't do it are considered inferiors."

Corruption cases become so entangled that few can sort them out. In the end, they fade away as a confused public loses interest. The latest case involves the elimination of a government agency known as Recadi, which during the previous government distributed no less than \$40 billion for subsidised imports.

Of that amount, some \$6 billion is said to have been granted fraudulently, most by overpricing, personal connections or even outright bribery, contributing to the depletion of Venezuela's monetary reserves.

In a swirl of charges and countercharges, one figure in the scandal attempted suicide, the leftist past of the judge handling the case was brought into play with implications that he is acting for political reasons; the judge sent an industrialist to jail for eight days for charging that the judge took bribes and for blaming the Recadi fraud on a former president and his sweetheart secretary.

Recadi was created in early 1983 as Venezuela's oil bonanza began to fade and exchange restrictions were imposed. Cheap dollars were lavishly granted via Recadi to both private and public companies for imports and otherwise would have fuelled inflation.

But it soon became a "nest of corruption ... that was practically designed for fraud," congressional investigators have charged.

It might take years just to check the 14,000 or so companies that received cheap dollars.

In one case, millions of dollars were granted to import holstein heifers to improve Venezuela's dairy stock. The heifers turned out not to be holsteins but "scrawny, feeble specimens," as one rancher said.

In another incident, Ana Teresa Herrera was fired as a Recadi inspector when she began investigating a company that had been granted \$14 million to import three airplanes. Only one was brought to Venezuela.

Seven: Great Britain, France, Italy, the US, Japan, West Germany and Canada.

Mexico, the second largest debtor in Latin America, owes \$104 billion, and Venezuela the fourth largest debtor, owes \$3 billion. Both countries have received backing in the form of fresh money from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Mexico has also received pledges from Japanese lenders of funds to match IMF amounts. Both Mexico and Venezuela are still negotiating with commercial banks over debt reduction under the Brady Plan.

Yesterday, the Mexican government and the 15-member

bank advisory committee said they were near agreement on a restructuring plan that would cut Mexico's payments by \$3 billion a year.

"We are finally seeing co-operation from industrialised governments on the principle of debt reduction," Perez said.

Perez said Mexican-Venezuelan development projects would be "the first step in a truly Latin American integration."

Salinas is expected to discuss development plans in the petrochemical and steel sectors, as well as renewal of a treaty to supply cheap oil to Central American and Caribbean nations for another year.

BAE likely to win £1b contract

LONDON, July 9, (KUNA): British Aerospace (BAE) was on the verge of winning a £1-billion contract to sell 70 Hawk jet trainers to Iraq, according to a report here today.

The Sunday Times newspaper said the British Cabinet's Overseas and Defence Committee will meet Wednesday to discuss the deal, which is supported by the Ministry of Defence, the Department of Trade and the Foreign Office.

BAE has been trying to sell the Hawk to the Iraqis since before the war with Iran broke out nine years ago.

It will be built under licence in Iraq over a seven-year period and paid for with Iraqi oil.

If the "politically controversial deal gets the go-ahead," it will be the first big arms sale by Britain to either side since the ceasefire last year, and could start off a new wave of arms-buying by the Iraqis, the weekly added.

The Hawk is competing against the Franco-German Alpha jet for the contract.

It has been "outselling" the Alpha in every region of the world and on this contract too, the Iraqis prefer the Hawk, it argued.

In a "unique arrangement," Shell has agreed to pay in advance for oil to be delivered in the future, the Sunday Times reported.

Shell believed this will help give it access to Iraqi oil as production improves with the repair of the damage caused by the war.

"Such a deal will also re-assure the treasury, which has been concerned that fluctuations in the oil price may leave Britain exposed," the publication concluded.

Iran plans tanker deals Seoul to buy more oil

NICOSIA, Cyprus, July 9, (Agencies): Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said today that South Korea will increase its purchase of Iranian oil, and that Seoul is keen to help in some of Tehran's post-war reconstruction projects, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

Aqazadeh, speaking at Tehran airport upon return from a week-long visit to Seoul, said that "Iranian oil exports to South Korea will be substantially increased in the future," IRNA reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Aqazadeh as saying that Iran currently exports 100,000 barrels of oil per day to South Korea. South Korean companies are negotiating to help Iran complete an unfinished petrochemical project and to reconstruct war-damaged offshore oil platforms in the Gulf, IRNA reported Aqazadeh as saying.

Aqazadeh said that Iran is negotiating the purchase of several oil tankers from the South Korean Hyundai Company, and that the deal will be finalised during a visit by the company's managers to Tehran next week.

Tehran radio, also monitored in Nicosia, quoted Aqazadeh as saying that the Kangan gas plant in southern Iran may also be completed with South Korean help.

A railway linking the southern cities of Baft and Bandar Abbas will be built with South Korean help, following completion of negotiations, the radio reported Aqazadeh as saying.

The two countries are studying the possibility of setting up a joint commission to promote economic co-operation, the radio quoted him as saying.

Meanwhile, Iran has set aside \$293 million for the reconstruction of war-damaged provinces and 240 million for implementing agricultural projects during the year ending March 1990.

Shari'atnagadeh, head of the Reconstruction Department in the Ministry of Plan and Budget, said yesterday that the cost of reconstruction of Khuzestan province alone had been estimated at \$230.6 million. A sum of 115.3 million was being made available for the purpose from the current allocation.

He said another \$519 million had been earmarked for rebuilding and repairing refineries, oil terminals, gas and oil pipelines, industrial and petrochemical installations, telecommunication centres and power transmission stations damaged in the war.

Gas prices set to soar

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, July 9, (AP): State-controlled gas prices could be lifted by 500 per cent next week, Roberto Dromi said today shortly after being sworn in as Argentina's public works minister.

"We can't keep selling gas at 30 australs (about 5 cents) a litre (quart) when a bottle of soda costs 220 australs," Dromi said. "It's hyperinflation that is obliging us to make that adjustment."

Low prices stem from the austral's drastic devaluation — about 97 per cent — against the dollar since February.

President Carlos Menem, who took office yesterday after winning the May 14 election, has said the rates charged for public utilities and services must rise in order to narrow the national budget deficit.

The firm that audits state companies said last week that phone rates are about one-fifth of what it costs to provide the service, and rates for electricity and commuter train tickets about one third of the costs.

The budget deficit may reach a massive 12 per cent of the gross national product this year.

Call to report for duty

COLOMBO, July 9, (KUNA): The Sri Lankan government expects a positive response from public servants tomorrow to its call to all employees in the government sector to report for duty tomorrow official sources said today.

The government's announcement which said that normal levels of public work should be maintained warned that those who fail to attend will be treated as on no pay leave.

Most government ministries and departments recorded very poor attendance due to the strike by the state-run bus services followed by the failure of the railway to operate trains, but the government has noted that in the private sector more workers had reported for duty, official sources said.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 08/07/1989				
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
2	Elizabeth K.	Algh Barwil	4842988	
5	Ibn Shuhaid	UASC	4843150	
6	Megh Fal	S. Shaheen	2432692	
8	Sham	ISA	2441860	
9	Lotus Dawn	Gh & Q	4347815	
13	Norasia Arabia	Emad	4841807	
14	Mieczyslaw Kalinowski	A. Seas	2421303	
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT				
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
9/7	Arkis Grace	Pronto	2433537	
10/7	Ville D'Oman	Algh Sea Freight	4745533	
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT				
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
2	Golden Bear	M. Bahar	2433881	
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT				
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
09/7	Tokyo Bridge	United	2457958	
09/7	Marjoun	Al Kamal	2425437	
12/7	Providence Bay	KMMC	2419814	
11/7	Floga	Algh Sea Freight	4745533	
15/7	Sparkle Moon	M.A. Bahar	2433881	
15/7	Ibn Al Waleed	UASC	4843150	
15/7	El Flamenco	Algh Sea Freight	4745533	
19/7	Charalambos B.	Algh Barwil	4842988	
19/7	Oceanus	Algh Barwil	4842988	
21/7	Qatari Ibn Al Fuja'a	UASC	4843150	
22/7	Addiriyah	UASC	4843150	
15/7	Golden Harvest	M.A. Bahar	2433881	
10/8	Golden Wonder	M.A. Bahar	2433881	
COMPILED BY: Alghanim Barwil Shipping Co. Kuwait, Tel: 4842988/4843988				
ext. 3628/3646 Fax No. 4845712				

Algeria wins breathing space for troubled economy

ALGIERS, July 9, (Reuters): Higher oil prices and a flood of commercial credits since riots shook the country last October have given Algeria breathing space to reform its troubled economy.

Officials and Western bankers say the North African country, a major oil and gas producer, is on target for its best economic performance this year since 1985.

But high unemployment, stagnant industry and crushing short-term debt remain formidable challenges for the government of Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah as it steers the country towards multiparty democracy and eases 27 years of state economic management.

Demonstrations over lack of water in Sidi Aissa in eastern Algeria last month were the latest warning of pressing daily

problems faced by the country's burgeoning population of 24 million.

Riots that killed at least 159 people last year led President Chadli Benjedid to accelerate sweeping economic and political reforms now being debated by the National Assembly, including unprecedented incentives for foreign investment.

The goal is to attract a maximum of foreign capital and credit to help the country bridge a gap to 1992, when foreign debt service is expected to ease and gas revenue likely to climb.

"We are going to increase our oil and gas exports but this requires three or four years," said one senior official who asked not to be named. "We are going to improve the functioning of the economy ... but we

must find a solution for the next three years."

The stakes are high amid widespread public impatience over tight housing, shortages of consumer goods and rising prices, the bankers said.

Energy Minister Saddek Boussena told Reuters in a recent interview that oil and gas revenues, the main source of hard currency, would jump this year to around \$8.5 billion from some \$6.5 billion last year.

The increase is largely due to higher world energy prices since the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) implemented new crude oil output curbs last January.

US group raises stake in Gateway

LONDON, July 9, (Reuters): A team led by Wall Street takeover specialists Wasserstein Perella said on Friday it had raised its stake in British supermarket chain Gateway to more than 30 per cent after a massive stock market raid in London.

Almost 380 million shares changed hands in Friday's purchases.

If successful, the bid for Britain's third biggest supermarket chain, worth more than £2 billion (\$3.2 billion), would be Europe's largest leveraged buyout using funding techniques pioneered on Wall Street.

The buyout bid — in which funds are borrowed to take over a company using that company's assets as collateral — is being put together by Wasserstein Perella Management Partners Inc. and West German-controlled US supermarket chain Great Atlantic Pacific Tea Co. Inc. (AP).

A rival bidder, Isosceles PLC, a British-based consortium which includes former Gateway management, has about 44 per cent.

The US group's bid is being made through the new Gateway company on whose behalf London brokers Hoare Govett bought shares on Friday at an improved offer of £2.24 (\$3.92) per share. That offer has been agreed by Gateway.

"We were amazed at the response today," said a spokesman for new Gateway's financial advisors, Samuel Montagu. They had expected only to double new Gateway's stake to 20 per cent.

Isosceles has launched a hostile bid which it says is worth between £2.45 and 2.50 (\$3.99 and 4.08) per share.

Labour unrest cost Seoul \$5 billion

SEOUL, July 9, (Reuters): Strikes hit more than 1,000 South Korean firms in the first half of 1989, inflicting 3,314 billion won (\$5 billion) worth of production losses, the Trade Ministry said today.

Labour disputes erupted at more than 580 manufacturing firms in the period, 44.1 per cent more than in the first half of 1988. Shipbuilding, electronics and motor industries were hardest hit.

Industrial unrest, although tapering off since April, caused \$1.1 billion in lost exports, a 76.6 per cent rise on the losses incurred in the first half of 1988, the ministry said.

South Korea saw an average 18.7 per cent wage rise this year after similar hikes in the previous two years.

Labour violence has hit many thousands of work sites since 1987, when the government promised sweeping political reforms.

Economic planners and trade officials have repeatedly warned that labour problems, coupled with the rapid appreciation of the South Korean currency, would slow South Korea's economic growth.

Growth lowered its gross national product (GNP) growth target to 7.5 per cent last month from an original eight per cent.

The economy, which grew more than 12 per cent annually for the past three years, showed a 5.7 per cent growth rate in the first quarter of this year.

Exchange opens for business

PORT LOUIS, July 9, (Reuters): Mauritius's new stock exchange opened for business this week with light trading in shares of its five listed companies, exchange officials said today.

Wednesday's opening session of the one-day-a-week market saw 14,665 shares worth a total of 337,830 rupees (\$21,300) changing hands, they added.

"Transaction volume on the first day was satisfactory and paves the way in the right direction pending the time when the market is well structured," said a local stockbroker, who asked not to be named.

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, July 9, (KUNA): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	7-13/16	8-5/16
3 months	8-1/4	8-3/4
6 months	8-1/2	9
1 year	8-9/16	9-1/16

Economic growth slows under Fed's tightened monetary policy

NEW YORK, July 9, (UPI): The government said June employment rose to 5.3 per cent, a top stock broker received a five-year suspended sentence for two counts of securities fraud and Two Pairs of the "Big Eight" accounting firms talked merger this week.

The Labour Department said Friday the nation's unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage point to 5.3 per cent in June.

Non-farm payroll added 180,000 jobs in June, but the goods-producing sector lost 50,000 positions, the department's statistical arm said. The automobile industry was the hardest hit.

The data provided more evidence economic growth is slowing under the Federal Reserve Board's tightened monetary policy designed to keep inflation in check while avoiding a recession.

Earlier this week, the National Association of Purchasing Man-

agement said its monthly economic index was below 50 per cent for the second straight month, slipping to 48.5 per cent in June from 49.7 per cent in May.

The Southwest Bank of St Louis Friday cut its prime lending rate to 10.5 per cent from 11 per cent, effective Monday. No other major banks immediately followed the move, which coincided with signals the Fed was poised to endorse an easing of short-term interest rates amid signs of an economic slowdown.

Boyd L. Jefferies, a key link in the government's probe of Wall Street corruption that led to the fall of high-profile dealmakers such as Ivan F. Boesky, was sentenced Thursday to five years probation and fined \$250,000 for two counts of securities fraud.

Jefferies, 58, admitted to playing a part in 1985 stock-parking scheme with an entity controlled by Boesky, and to participating in a ruse to manipulate

the stock price of Fireman's Fund Corp.

Information provided by the former head of Los Angeles-based Jefferies and Co. helped the government bring indictments against Gaf Corp. and one of its top executives: Paul Bilzerian, then chairman of Singer Co., and financier Salim B. (Sandy) Lewis.

Analysts said the merger moves by Two Pairs of "Big Eight" accounting firms this week were part of a global industry consolidation.

Deloitte Haskins and Sells and Touche Ross and Co. agreed Thursday to an alliance that could create an accounting firm with annual revenues of \$4 billion, while Arthur Andersen and Co. and Price Waterhouse said they were discussing a merger that would create an entity with combined revenues of \$4.9 billion.

The moves come less than two months after Ernst and Whinney and

Arthur Young and Co. agreed to join, creating a management services firm with world-wide revenues of \$4.3 billion.

In the Time-Warner-Paramount takeover triangle, Paramount Communications Inc. Wednesday extended its \$12.2 billion offer for Time Inc. to midnight, July 28, to allow a Delaware court to rule on its lawsuit to halt a \$14 billion merger pact between Time and Warner Communications Inc.

A letter made public Wednesday showed Cablevision Systems Corp., a sizable Time shareholder unhappy with Time's inflexible deal with Warner, may also become a Time bidder.

In Stamford, Connecticut, the state's consumer counsel was granted intervenor status Thursday in a suit seeking to halt Paramount's bid for Time that was filed by American Television and Communications Corp., an 82 per cent Time subsidiary.

In a related move, the National League of Cities wrote a letter to the Federal Communications Commission expressing concern over the Paramount bid.

Strike-bound Eastern Airlines, the Miami subsidiary of Texas Air Corp., was given a two-week extension, until July 21, to file a reorganization plan.

David I. Shapiro, the examiner appointed to help revive Eastern and pull it through bankruptcy proceedings, said Eastern and its pilot's union were negotiating to resolve a four-month-old strike that has crippled the carrier.

The US bankruptcy court Thursday approved a \$20 million fund that would reimburse travel agents who used their own money to pay those holding tickets for cancelled Eastern flights.

In Detroit, automakers Wednesday reported a 10.6 per cent decline in sales of US cars and light trucks in June, with

analysts blaming the slump on lower consumer confidence and buyer incentives that have lost their appeal.

Clothing sales were the one sunny spot in June for the nation's retailers, who Thursday reported sluggish sales gains amid consumers' concerns about creeping inflation.

Analysts said consumers shied from durable-good items, but apparel sales were boosted by early summer clearances.

Integrated Resources Inc., the cash-strapped New York Real Estate and Insurance Company, said Thursday it has begun cutting its Manhattan-based staff by 20 per cent or approximately 300 workers.

Integrated, which is seeking \$300 million in new loans as part of a complex corporate restructuring plan, said the layoffs were designed to "strengthen the company by focusing on core business" and reducing expenses.



Carlos Menem and his wife Zulema Yoma stretch out to shake hand with supporters as they ride an open car after Menem was sworn in as Argentina's 46th president on Saturday. Menem, a flamboyant populist from the impoverished northwest, took power in the midst of the country's worst-ever economic crisis. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sacrifice lies ahead, Argentines warned

Painful austerity measures planned

BUENOS AIRES, July 9, (Reuters): Argentina's new President Carlos Menem, took office yesterday with a warning that it will take painful austerity measures and sacrifice to loosen the stranglehold on his country's foundering economy.

"The Argentine economy has a noose around its neck, there is no more time to hesitate... (inflation) is devouring the salaries and well-being of millions of Argentines," Menem said after being sworn in as the country's 46th president.

He said Argentina would undergo a hard, costly and severe adjustment.

"I am not a magician, wizard or miracle-worker," he told thousands of drum-beating followers gathered outside the presidential palace for his inauguration.

"Hard days are coming... but with your help I can do a lot for Argentina," the former provincial governor and leader of the populist Peronist Movement said in his 52-minute speech.

Menem, 59, who received the presidential sash from outgoing leader Raul Alfonsín, inherited a near-crippled economy with inflation running at over 100 per cent a month, rising unemployment and a \$60-billion foreign debt on which Argentina has made no payments since April 1988.

Alfonsín, who succeeded a discredited military regime in 1983, became the first Argentine civilian leader in 61 years to hand over power to a democratically-elected president.

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Argentina's economic crisis forced Alfonsín to bring forward by five months the transfer of power.

Fifteen people were killed and over 100 injured in food riots in May and political leaders have warned of renewed violence unless living standards improve soon. An estimated eight million Argentines are living below the poverty line.

Menem gave no details in his speech of his economic policies. But he pledged to crack down hard on corruption and impose rigid austerity on the public sector.

His economic programme is due to be announced tonight and is expected to include massive increases in public utility charges and a five-fold rise in petrol prices.

Multinational oil firms under pressure

Disinvestment challenged

DURBAN, South Africa, July 9, (Reuters): A small South African trade union is causing headaches for powerful multinational oil and chemical companies which are under mounting pressure to cut their links with apartheid.

Mobil Corp is the latest firm to face local strikes, legal action and international protests because it failed to agree to rigorous terms set by the Chemical Workers Industrial Union (CWIU) before it announced in April it was disinvesting.

Under pressure, the US oil giant this week agreed to several CWIU demands including a 6.5-million-rand (\$2.3-million) payment to workers after selling its local business to General Mining Union Corp. Ltd.

The non-racial trade union, most of whose members are black, holds that foreign firms should cut all their ties with South Africa to press it into scrapping apartheid.

But general secretary Rod Crompton says disinvestments so far have been incomplete or dishonest — corporate camouflage designed to boost a company's image, often at the expense of workers, while

preserving discreet licensing, franchise and technology agreements inside South Africa.

"Multinationals have no scruples as far as these things are concerned," Crompton, 36, a white former schoolteacher known to members as Comrade Rod, said in an interview.

The 36,000-member union wants disinvestments to be complete, with a maximum impact on public opinion, while doing the minimum harm to workers. Its demands are tough.

It insists firms should give a year's notice before selling up, fully disclose their plans and negotiate with the union.

Firms must give workers one month's pay per year of service, guarantee pension rights and provide safeguards for employees, it says. All proceeds of the sale should go into a trust fund for workers and the community, not taken out of South Africa.

On Tuesday the union said Mobil had agreed to give workers guarantees of working conditions for a year, compensate them with at least a month's pay and release details of the sale.

Banking bill discussion postponed

TAIPEI, July 9, (Reuters): Parliament postponed discussion of a controversial banking bill which could crush Taiwan's illegal multi-billion-dollar underground investment industry on Friday through pressure of business.

Debate is now scheduled for tomorrow and the bill is expected to pass quickly once it reaches the floor.

The proposed law, which would also allow the creation of new private banks and expand foreign bank access to Taiwan's financial markets, has been under discussion since January.

Disputes have raged over heavy penalties the bill provides for operators of illegal deposit-taking companies.

Financial analysts say the proposed law could wipe out an estimated 200 underground investment houses which have used sky-high interest rates to attract a giant slice of the island's savings. Economists estimate the institutions have collected the equivalent of about \$4 billion from the public, which they have diverted into speculative stock and real estate investments.

Stock watchers warn that a sudden crackdown on the industry could undermine the stock market where small investors swiftly follow the lead of larger players.

The stock index, which has dropped nearly 10 per cent since the beginning of the month, lost 336.37 points on Friday to finish at 8,295.94.

Brokers attributed the fall to fears of the bill's impact.

"If the law is imposed immediately, it will have a huge impact on the market," said analyst Dickson Ho of W.I.Carr Securities (Taiwan) Ltd.

Indonesia signs oil contracts

JAKARTA, Indonesia, July 9, (AP): The state-owned Pertamina oil company on Thursday signed nine new contracts with 15 foreign companies for oil exploration and production.

Three of the contracts are extensions of old contracts with: US Mobil Oil operating in north Sumatra; US Stanvac, Indonesia, operating in the eastern Sumatra province of Riau; and Bermuda's Asamara Oil, Ltd., operating in another area in north Sumatra.

Under a similar contract, Esso Rawas, Inc. and Mobil Bangkok, Inc., both of the United States, will operate in the Surulung area in the province of south Sumatra.

Spain's Repsol Exploration, SA and Britain's Lasso Tanager, Ltd., will operate in the Java Sea off Tangerang, west Java.

Total Lahat of France, Home Oil of Canada and Sun Lahat, Inc., of the United States, will operate in the district of Lahat, south Sumatra.

Mexico, private banks near accord on debt

MEXICO CITY, July 9, (AP): Mexico and its private lenders are near agreement on an accord that would cut Mexico's foreign debt payments by \$3 billion a year, the government news agency Notimex reported yesterday.

The agency quoted a statement issued in New York by William Rhodes of Citibank and Mexican Treasury Undersecretary Jose Angel Gurría.

"Mexico and the committee of banks are close to an accord in principle of a series of options, including reducing the debt, interest and fresh money," the statement said.

Talks to work out the details were to resume in New York, the statement said.

The negotiators issued the joint communiqué after a round that lasted until nearly dawn, Notimex said.

About \$54 billion of Mexico's \$107.4-billion foreign debt is owed to private banks in the industrialised world. The committee

represents 14 major lenders.

Mexico's foreign debt is the second largest in the developing world after Brazil's. The Mexican debt talks are seen as an important indicator in the Third World debt crisis and as essential to Mexico's economic recovery and stability.

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has made debt reduction the centrepiece of his new administration's policies and he has tried to woo lenders by offering both economic and political reform.

The possibility of an agreement comes at the 11th hour for Mexico, which is not believed to have enough foreign reserves to cover upcoming debt payments.

Notimex said the package being worked out in New York includes the following options:

■ Swapping old, high-interest debt for new bonds with a lower interest rate of about 6.25 per cent.

■ Discounting old debt by 35 per cent by trading old debt paper for new.

■ New credits at prevailing market rates during the next three years.

Notimex attributed its information to sources close to the negotiations.

A \$3-billion cut in debt payments would mean a significant gain for Mexico, which had expected to pay about \$16 billion this year to foreign lenders.

Mexico's economy has been stifled by the debt crisis and other economic setbacks such as high inflation. The average workers' earning power has declined by 50 per cent in six years and the pressure on the Salinas government for debt relief is intense.

Salinas has said his goal is to cut annual debt payments from 6 per cent to 2 per cent of the gross national product.

Fed to allow short-term rates to ease

US bank cuts prime rate

NEW YORK, July 9, (UPI): The Southwest Bank of St Louis on Friday announced it had cut its prime lending rate to 10.5 per cent from 11 per cent, effective tomorrow.

No other major banks immediately followed the move, but they were expected to do so next week in a replay of interest rate reductions in June, analysts said.

The Southwest Bank of St Louis in the past has often tried to post the first reduction in the base rate, and the anticipated move to the lower prime rate comes amid strong evidence that the Federal Reserve has agreed to allow short-term interest rates to ease.

The last adjustment in the key rate was on June 5, when the prime was lowered to 11 per cent from 11.5 per cent. At that time, Southwest Bank cut its prime rate on Friday, June 2. It was not until the following Monday, June 5, that the reduction in the base rate spread throughout the industry.

The prime rate is used as a base rate to calculate interest on a variety of loans, including those to consumers and small businesses.

"Basically, this comes amid increasing evidence that the economy is slowing down dramatically," said Elliot Platt, an economist with Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette Inc. "The inflation rate is also declining



Alan Greenspan

significantly."

Platt said the prime rate cut should become industry-wide by next week. He predicted that the rate would fall to 9.5 per cent by the end of the year.

A lower prime could translate into interest-rate relief for consumers who have home equity and other loans pegged to the prime.

The move by Southwest Bank coincided with signals the Federal Reserve was poised to endorse another easing in short-term interest rates amid signs of a slowdown in the economy. The federal funds rate — the rate charged to banks by other banks for overnight loans — slipped to 9-1/4 per cent early Friday.

"The Fed has cut the funds rate to 9-1/4 per cent in response to the deteriorating economy,"

which both improves and now overshadows Fed inflation concerns," said Philip Braverman, chief economist at Irving Securities.

Braverman said the Fed funds rate would fall to nine per cent before Fed chairman Alan Greenspan's next appearance before Congress, now set for July 20.

Braverman said the further cut would occur "if the Fed is to avoid criticism that it has not done enough to avoid the mounting risk of recession."

The reduction in the prime rate comes after the two-day meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee in Washington.

While the minutes of the FOMC meeting are not released until six weeks after its conclusion, there has been widespread speculation on Wall Street that the policy-making arm of the Fed would allow short-term interest rates to ease.

The announcement by Southwest Bank followed word from the Labour Department that the nation's unemployment rate rose 0.1 per cent to 5.3 per cent in June.

The number of non-farm payrolls increased by a modest 180,000, below market forecasts of between 200,000 and 240,000. The moderation in the number of jobs created was the latest evidence that economic growth had slowed.

AMMAN			KUWAIT						
	OPNE	CLSG		P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
A-ADDIN COMPANY	2.58	2.61	NATIONAL BANK	0.980	0.970	0.970	0.970	125000	4
ARAB ALUMINUM LTD.	2.14	2.22	GULF BANK	0.355	0.355	0.355	0.355	20000	1
ARAB BANK	170.0	174.0	COMMERCIAL BK	0.260	0.265	0.265	0.265	110000	4
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.54	4.54	AHLI BANK	0.295	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.08	1.08	B-K.M.E.	0.335	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB INSURANCE	1.08	1.08	K.R.E.B.	0.330	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.66	0.67	BURGAN BANK	0.255	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.11	1.16	K.F.HOUSE	0.465	0.465	0.465	0.465	70000	3
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	1.24	1.24	INVESTMENT SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.37	2.40	KUT INV. CO.	0.099	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB PAPER COM/TFD	0.35	0.34	K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB PHARMA/MANF.	3.57	3.65	K.I.I.C.	0.064	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	2.09	2.19	COM.FACILITIES	0.430	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---	AHLIAH INV.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	I.F.A.	0.043	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
BANK OF JORDAN	15.07	15.10	INV. PEARL KUT	0.087	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITNA	1.26	1.26	NATIONAL INV.	0.065	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
BELGIUM INSURANCE	0.95	1.00	KUT PROJECTS.	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	400000	5
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	29.00	29.00	INSURANCE SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	KUT INSURANCE	0.600	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.34	0.34	GULF INSURANCE	0.340	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	2.70	2.75	AHLIA INS. CO.	0.480	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.80	0.80	WARBA INS. CO.	0.340	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71	REAL EST SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
GENERAL OWNERS OFF	4.50	4.50	KUT R.EST. CO.	0.128	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	UNI R.EST. CO.	0.090	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.27	1.25	NAT R.EST. CO.	0.180	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
GENERAL MINING.	2.10	2.10	SALAHIA R.E.	0.080	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
HIMMER MINERALS	0.75	0.75	KUT R.E.I.CO	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44	INDUSTRY SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
IND./MATCH JEMCO	1.18	1.24	NAT IND. CO.	0.490	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP. BK	1.63	1.70	KUT M.P. IND.	0.310	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	KUT CEMENT CO.	0.170	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INTERM.COM/INV.	0.13	0.13	REF. IND. CO.	0.360	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.81	0.81	K.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.64	0.64	GULF CABLE	0.980	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.14	2.20	N.H.IND. CO.	0.166	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.79	0.80	COM.MARINE	0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.26	1.29	K.SH.REP.CO	0.045	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	19.50	19.50	SERVICES SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.23	2.26	OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	25.05	25.05	K.N.C. CO.	0.180	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.48	1.45	KUT HOTELS CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.20	1.22	P.WAREHOUSING	0.140	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.09	1.11	COM.MKT.CMPX.	0.081	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.18	2.18	MOBILE TELE.	0.295	0.295	0.295	0.295	140000	3
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.45	2.43	KUT COMPUTER	0.144	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.20	1.20	FOOD SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.79	0.83	LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.15	0.15	UNTD FISHERIES	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.50	0.50	UNTD POULTRY	0.230	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.47	2.48	KUT FOODS	0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	4.10	4.25	AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	4.10	4.10	NON-AGRI. SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.33	2.36	SHW.INTER.BK	0.063	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.79	1.72	SHW.N.EAST.BK	0.046	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.23	1.25	CONST. INVEST.	0.082	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.33	1.35	A.G. INV. GRP.	0.029	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.12	1.11	FIRST GULF BK	0.850	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.20	2.18	SHW.KIAM. GRP.	0.078	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.85	2.96	GULF MEDICAL	0.034	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	4.79	4.75	KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.88	0.90	COMPANIES LISTED	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	7.98	7.99	FINANCIAL SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.70	2.68	GULF INTL INS.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.30	2.30	ARAB INT. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.33	0.34	SHARAH INS.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.15	1.15	GULF UNIV INS.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.10	1.08	R.K.WHITE CMNT	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	0.94	0.95	AL-KHAYAT CEMENT.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	3.25	3.23	INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	2.32	2.20	B-FUJAIHAK CEM.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.40	1.40	C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOYD ELECTRICITY	1.06	1.00	D-SULF CEMENT.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Hodgkin: he makes them laugh, he makes them cry

More than an inspired amateur

By Christopher Andreae
LONDON: "Most of my paintings are about very fleeting moments, or are very emotional — they're about feelings. And I think you need to make something very... fortified to contain them."

Howard Hodgkin, English painter, is talking about his art. I was asking about the way in which there is often a central image or space in his paintings that is surrounded by wide bands or movements of paint-colour, acting like a heavy frame. Or else the paintings, which are always oil on wood rather than canvas, have an actual frame over which his colours range.

"I've talked ad infinitum," he says, "about how I want my pictures to be totally self-contained physical objects. Sometimes the subject is so ineffable — almost uncatchable — you need to make sure that, for the viewer and for itself, it is contained in something inviolable."

"I'm trying to think of a parallel. I can think of a really stupid one! Like the little urns in ancient Greece that were made to contain tears. If you think of the life of a picture in the world and what people will do to it, and where it'll be hung, and so on, it needs to be like a sort of clenched fist, like a safe jewel case."

There is a jewel-like

opulence in Hodgkin's paintings, a richness of light and colour. The substantiality of his paint reinforces the sense of the picture as an object. His brushwork, vigorous and straightforward, is surprisingly luxurious. But these things make for strength, not for preciousness. The image is always concentrated and bold, though not large by modern standards.

Hodgkin is talking with me in the flat he owns in Bloomsbury, practically in the shadow of the British Museum. He takes me down to see his adjacent studio, which tells its own story about his painting. Large white canvases lean against the walls. But these are not for painting. They are covers for the paintings that hang on the walls behind them. He lifts one away to show me a single completed picture.

Beyond
It seems to expand beyond its own dimensions, bursting with colour. Everything else in the studio remains hidden — as it does when he is working. He allows no distractions. One painting is worked on at a time. No background music.

He is a slow painter, a classicist by inclination. Each painting holds in it layers of pondering, of alteration, adjustment, reconsideration. But the freshness — the sense

of images spontaneously occurring — is always there in the final image, even though it has been arrived at over a number of years, after long anxiousness.

Now in his late 50s, Hodgkin is not averse to the considerable recognition that's come his way. In recent years he has been lionized as a painter whose work addresses some of the "expressionist" explorations of the "new generation" of painters. Yet his painting hasn't undergone a radical change to bring this about; it has simply been found relevant to current notions.

There is a kind of fortuity in this. Hodgkin has always been a distinct individualist. He thinks it's pointless and unrevealing to search for influences of past art or relationships with other contemporary artists. He says, "It's so hard, literally, to do one's own work. You can't look over your shoulder to see what X or Y is doing. It's a waste of time and effort." And at another point in our interview: "I can't give myself a historical reason for existing!"

On the other hand, he has long collected Indian miniatures, and he periodically goes to India, mainly because it is so completely different from the West. Though he

disavows any conscious influence of Indian art on his work, it's something he may sometimes notice after a painting is made — possibly a kind of osmosis that's easier for outsiders to see.

For some reason people have often said his work is like Matisse's. He can't see the resemblance, and neither can I. What he has learned from Matisse is the need, in our time, for every painter to arrive at his own visual language — and also to be his own patron, critic, public-relations man, everything. Society, Hodgkin feels, leaves the artist little other choice, particularly in England.

His being lumped among the younger expressionist painters of the '80s is, in fact, somewhat questionable. He has himself (in an interview with David Sylvester) criticized *alla prima*, or "direct," painting, because it "doesn't contain enough. It only contains as much as you have time to put down." And with some of the younger artists today, there is an evident need for that kind of hurry and impatience. Not with Hodgkin.

He also makes the point that the comparatively small size of his pictures makes his work different from a great many other modern artists. His pictures are deliberately made

to be seen from "a fixed viewpoint." But "very big paintings... can be seen from anywhere; they can become a surface that you walk in front of.... I greatly admire Jackson Pollock, but (his) is a kind of baroque use of the picture-space."

In recent years Hodgkin has been painting larger pictures, which have not yet been exhibited. The "kind of intensity I need... is, for me, very difficult to achieve on a huge scale." The trouble with large painting is that it is often rhetorical, declamatory, and public. These are scarcely Hodgkin traits. But he wants to paint larger pictures, he says, because "I want to include more in my paintings."

Fascinated
He is fascinated "by the kind of space that is horizontal. There's a wonderful and remarkably primitive early painting by Vuillard — not one of his great works at all — which... I've never forgotten. It was very long — an almost impossible format — and very shallow. It's got figures, talking, leaning against a mantelpiece, sitting on a sofa... Well, I one day want to produce a picture that has that kind of elongated space." But only if Hodgkin can keep "the kind of emotional intensity" he has in his present pictures and make



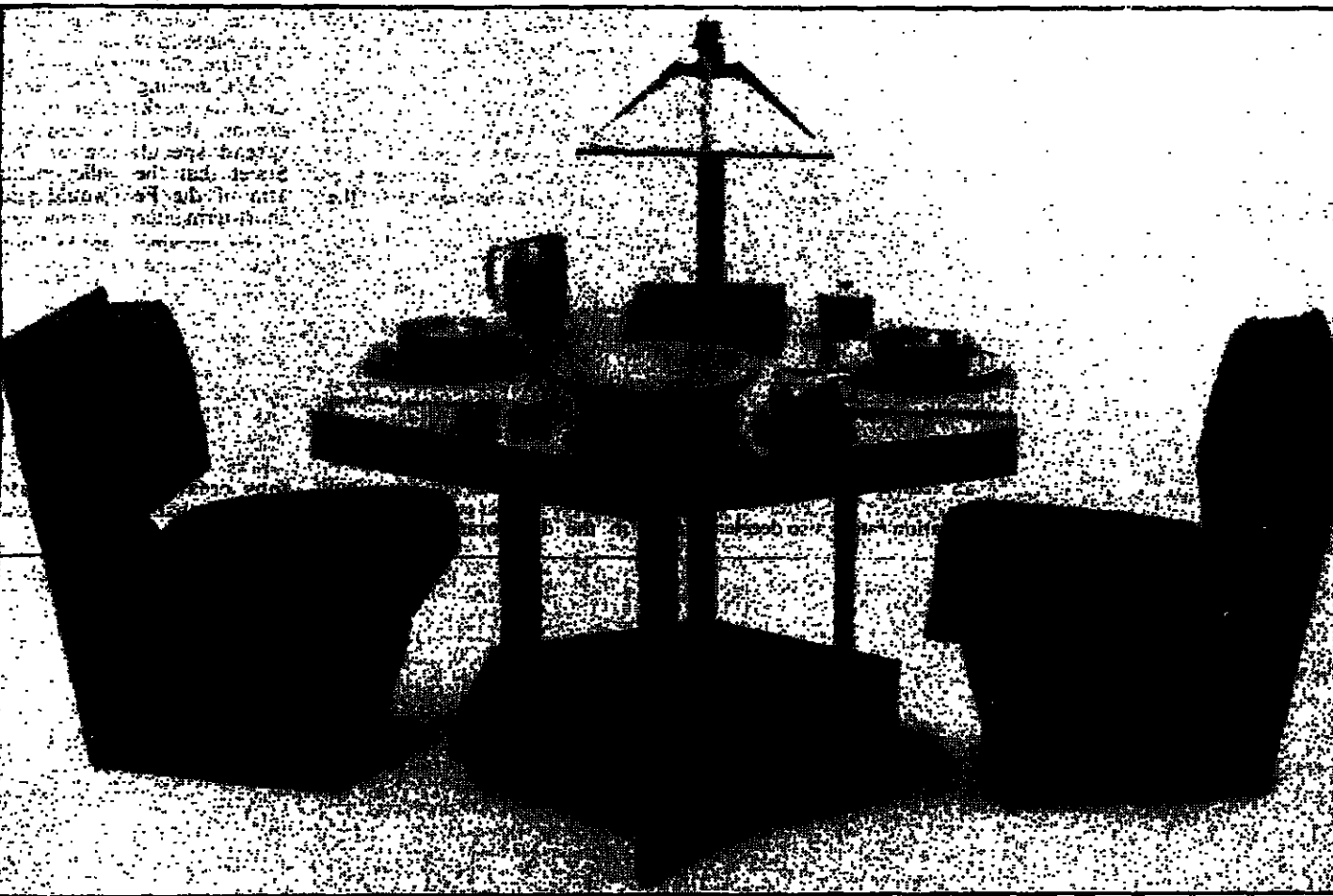
This Howard Hodgkin oil on wood is called 'Dinner in the Palazzo Albrizzi'.

the longer picture "narrative", without "falling out at either end."

The "frame," in other words, remains vital. For Hodgkin the mere picture-edge is never enough in itself for his kind of illusionism. He is very interested in *trompe l'oeil* — in the kind of

illusionistic painting that tricks the eye. The formal qualities of his work (which cannot be called either "abstract" or "figurative") are, of course, in an entirely different mode from paintings of dead game-birds or musical instruments hung in front of a wood panel.

But he has the same interest in making the spectator accept an overlapping of forms, of spaces revealed or half hidden, of an illusion that turns the flat surface of a picture into something credibly tangible and three-dimensional. 1989, The Christian Science Monitor.



Frank Lloyd Wright's two-piece hexagonal table and chairs for the Zimmerman house.

Grammar around the home

By Mildred Jailer

IMAGINE the pride, pleasure, —and relief— of commissioning a distinguished architect to design your new home and its furniture, too.

This seemingly novel all-in-one approach is hardly a new concept. Gustav Stickley, this country's arts-and-crafts master, did it. Walter Gropius of the German-based, industrial design-minded Bauhaus School often created the furnishings for his buildings. Augustus Welby Pugin codified the Gothic Revival style in this manner in 19th-century England. The California architectural firm of Charles Sumner Greene and his brother, Henry Mather Greene, inspired by Pugin, created "total environments" at the turn of the century. And, today, post-modernist Michael Graves is an adherent of the house-cum-furnishings philosophy.

But, chances are, Alexander Jackson Davis and Frank Lloyd Wright are the best known among past American architects who underscored this kind of consistency.

Davis was a romanticist whose "cottages" and villas with their crenelated facades, square towers, and cathedral-like arched and pointed windows were the first hint that the Gothic Revival style, already popular in England, was soon to sweep the United States.

Davis was influenced by Pugin. But, perhaps even more by the effect of the powerful cliff-top overlooking the Hudson Valley, a stretch of land following the Hudson River and an easy trip from Davis' home in New York City, Davis loved the region. He sensed that a forceful yet pictorial type of architecture would enhance it with the bold irregular outlines, emphasis on the vertical, and the deep dramatic shadows of the Gothic Revival style.

In his book, 'The Natural House' Wright wrote: 'Every house worth considering as a work of art must have a grammar of its own. Grammar, in the sense, means the same thing in any construction whether it be of words or of stone or wood. It is the shape relationship between the various elements that enter into the constitution of the thing. The grammar of the house is its manifest articulation of all its parts.'

As he turned his dream into structures, he punctuated the romantic style with complementary interiors and furnishings. He designed furniture that is bold in concept and strongly architectural. But it also has a delicacy and, sometimes, a bit of whimsy not usually associated with the Gothic.

His chair backs frequently resemble the cathedral-like window shapes of his buildings. Chair legs are similar to octagonal or clustered-column architectural designs. The feet are either modified animal-footed designs, modified spade forms, or covered with vine and leaf carvings derived from Gothic architectural ornamentation motifs.

Lyndhurst, the great marble "castle" posed over the Hudson River in Tarrytown, N.Y., is probably the most dramatic remaining example of Davis' creativity — and of the Gothic Revival style. Davis built it for Gen. William Paulding, a former New York City mayor.

In 1838, when Davis began to design the house, he is said to have presented 50 designs for furniture to his client. Davis appears to have designed furniture for "Knoll," as the house was then called, for a decade. By 1848, the building was thoroughly Gothic, inside and out, with both built-in and moveable pieces.

Davis provided Lyndhurst with especially notable chairs, some featuring "wheelbacks" with fancy gears, square seats,

and Gothic-detail legs. He also designed chairs with typically Gothic pointed backs.

For the estate's second owner, George Merritt, a wealthy merchant, Davis created a dining table in the style of Pugin, the recognized leader of the English ecclesiastical Gothic Revival style. The table, still in place at Lyndhurst, has a massive center base fashioned with molded columns interspersed by Gothic arched panels and tracery. It is especially well-suited for the room and appropriate to the social needs of the Merritt family and, from 1880, the last private owner, railroad tycoon Jay Gould.

Twentieth-century architect Frank Lloyd Wright also had strong convictions about the importance of designing the furniture for his houses.

In his book, 'The Natural House' (Horizon Press, New York, 1954), Wright wrote: 'Every house worth considering as a work of art must have a grammar of its own. Grammar, in this sense, means the same thing in any construction whether it be of words or of stone or wood. It is the shape relationship between the various elements that enter into the constitution of the thing. The grammar of the house is its manifest articulation of all its parts. When the chosen grammar is finally adopted, walls, ceilings, furniture, etc., become inspired by it. Everything has a related articulation in relation to the whole and all belongs together;

looks well together because all together are speaking the same language.'

Wright's buildings featured functional qualities and materials and lines that are integrated with the surroundings. His furniture provides an uninterrupted flow. This includes the pieces he designed for his so-called "Usonian" houses intended for people of moderate means. (The word "Usonian" is believed to have been coined from "Usonia," the name of a never-completed, affordably priced community in Pleasantville, N.Y., planned by Wright and his apprentices. Wright did, however, create relatively low-cost homes in other areas. It is reported, for example, that, in the 1920s and 1930s he designed smaller houses for approximately \$3,000. And in New York City in 1953, he built a demonstration Usonian house for approximately \$15,000.)

The 1951-52 Zimmerman house, a recent gift to the Currier Gallery of Art in Manchester, N.H., may be typical of one of Wright's Usonian plans that included the furniture. The house is a strong geometric statement of glazed red brick, cast concrete, and clear red Georgia cypress positioned on a wooded hilltop. The exterior materials are repeated inside. And the furniture, designed for the house by Wright, achieves the consistency he believed vital to the overall effect. The low, flowing pieces are, for the most part, of the same warm colour cypress used for the ceiling.

Although Wright would probably have been horrified — and rightly so — at the glaring misfit of a Victorian chest in one of his houses, he was amenable to the individual needs of his clients.

1989, Christian Science Monitor.

Soviet architecture enters new phase

Glasnost revives ideinost

By Joseph Giovanni

AMONG all the arts exported from the Soviet Union since the 1950s, architecture has been conspicuous by its absence. The reason is simple. While Stalin favoured inflated, wedding-cake-style architecture to express the state's authority, Khrushchev wanted quantity — especially mass-produced housing, roughly built with large pre-fabricated panels. What had been an elitist profession under Stalin became subsumed within a centrally planned, bottom-line-only bureaucracy intent on the industrialization of all building.

In 1957, Khrushchev abolished the Academy of Architecture; some architecture schools closed; enrollment in others declined. Diminished responsibilities and freedoms lowered expectations and reduced the profession's ability to attract talent.

Architecture was humbled and marginalized. In this repressive situation, design went underground, or rather, through the mails. Unexpectedly, in the late 1970s, Japan offered an escape avenue for architects reduced at home to practising as functionaries and frustrated by architecture lacking what they called "ideinost," or idea content. A small group of architects, mostly from the Moscow Institute MArkhl, discovered competitions held by Japanese architectural publications and institutions. Friends working in small groups, always on their own time, created "paper architecture" — so called because paper was the ultimate destination of the designs: they were not meant to be built. The architects speculated on themes set abroad — the new Japanese house, for example, or the contemporary art and architecture museum.

"There was no work for architects trying to be independent," explained Yuri Avvakumov, a Moscow architect, at the opening earlier this spring of "Paper Architecture: New Project From the Soviet Union," an exhibition at the German Architecture Museum in Frankfurt. "So our client was Japan." Architects sent their entries, often via Byzantine international routings, and the foreign reception and prize money encouraged greater participation. "At the beginning, the architects were just playing around, but by the late '80s it became a serious movement," said the Moscow architecture critic Alexander Rappaport.

Proudly
Now, in the Gorbachev era, paper architecture has joined other arts proudly exhibited abroad. Several shows have been held over the last two years in Western Europe, in London, Paris and Milan. The Frankfurt show, initiated by the museum's former director, Heinrich Klotz, was one of the most comprehensive. The exhibition contained 86 theoretical works done between 1979 and 1989 by 25 architects and was accompanied by Russians talking openly about the present state of the profession. The very existence of these shows points to a change in official attitude, in favour of what the Soviets consider a "humanised" environment.

"Khrushchev started the process of killing architecture, and under Brezhnev, architecture just died," said Vladislav Kirpichev, director of the Experimental Studio for Chil-



Stalin favoured inflated, wedding cake-style architecture to express the state's authority.

dren's Architecture in Moscow, whose students' drawings, remarkable for their spatial complexity, formed a show within the show at Frankfurt.

"With glasnost and perestroika, architecture naturally is being rehabilitated. Paper architecture was important to shake up the architectural bureaucracy. Everybody now is talking about architecture."

According to Catherine Cooke, a London scholar of Soviet architecture, drawings done since the 1970s have worked collectively as a "major focus, and indeed catalyst, of urgent new demands within the Soviet profession for its own reinvigoration."

For a show of architecture, there was little architecture on view in Frankfurt — few building plans and, except for the drawings by Kirpichev's students, few explorations of form and space. Lining the walls instead were uniformly sized renderings, each a kind of storyboard with an often charming and socially critical narrative unfolding in an architectural setting.

Fables with the power of criticism and comment, they were a form of drawn architectural literature.

In the etching "A Ship of Fools, or a Wooden Skyscraper for the Jolly Company," Alexander Brodsky and Ilya Utkin portrayed passengers blithely toasting one another as a gigantic architectural vessel plows through a sea of small buildings. A magisterial ink rendering by I. Galimov depicted a huge, Parthenon-like temple in partial collapse, its columns, entablature and tympanum composed of famous buildings, including the Eiffel Tower, the Chrysler Building and Barcelona's Sagrada Familia Cathedral.

"The stagnation under Brezhnev stimulated architects to be unrealistic in their creativity — it was a response to an unrealistic situation," said Rappaport, who sees paper architecture as pluralist and "post-totalitarian."

"The problem of space and form is not the main problem. The work is more literary,

more visionary, dealing with the organisation of human imagination and behaviour."

"The exhibition shows a large degree of playfulness and freedom for their individual — it's free of 20th-century dogmas, and free of its own dogmas. Here in the Soviet Union, we have a strong position against totalitarianism. Utopias are idealist and authoritarian — they change reality into a schematic way of living. We would be afraid to propose Utopias. For us they bring remembrances of a dark past. Today no one represents the truth."

In much paper architecture it is difficult to tell what is Russian and what is foreign — included in response to contest requirements.

Irony
But there are common qualities. Irony abounds, as in Avvakumov's "Sepulchral Skyscraper, or Metropolitan Self-Elevating Columbarium," a strictly disciplined modernist skyscraper in which each module is a coffin.

"Agitation is another theme of paper architecture," said Avvakumov, whose firm is named Agitarch.

"The reaction to totalitarianism is more important than the tradition of Modernism," he added, referring to drawings that emphasize subjective and emotional qualities of the environment more than functional or stylistic aspects. In 1984 the Union of Architects in Moscow refused to show an exhibition of paper architecture, and it opened instead at the offices of a literary magazine, Youth. There, the largely unknown work attracted considerable attention. The Russian poet Andrei Voznesensky, himself a former MArkhl student, called it "a sublimation of despair." The interest encouraged Soviet competitions. Publication of the results, and intense discussion within the field.

In 1986, discussion fuelled debates at the Eighth Congress of Soviet Architects, where a group within the Union of Architects proposed restructuring the whole profession.

ANDY CAPP



By Smith

Worship of the average works against schools

Soviets need another revolution

By Graham Turner

THE purpose of our education system, said Asya, an 18-year-old in her second year at Moscow University, "is to bring everyone to some kind of average level. Those who are very clever don't like to show it. Usually the teachers don't seem to care, so what would be the point? Even if you are able to do more, you know nobody appreciates it, so you don't bother."

"The atmosphere in the classroom is not to show that you are good, just to wait for the bell. And the teachers give the weaker ones Grade 3s instead of 2s, so they don't let them fail anyway. Everybody graduates, no problems must appear. By the time you leave school, you don't differ from anybody else."

The Soviet school system suf-

fers from one of the most debilitating of all educational diseases, a worship of the average. No matter, that in life nobody wants an average car mechanic or an average accountant, the vast bulk of Soviet schools are geared to the pace and abilities of the average pupil. Accommodating to the speed of the weaker brethren, declare Soviet officials, serves to deflate the egoism of the more able.

Therefore, there is mixed ability teaching, with predictable consequences. "We have a lot of talented people," said Valentina, an economist with a Government export agency, "but everybody is thrown into the same class because of our crazy idea of equality, and so the clever people never fulfill their potential. Eventually they lose all

interest."

This self-evident truth has just begun to penetrate the ideology-warped craniums in the Kremlin. Having observed that their economy is utterly enfeebled, their populace a sluggish and motiveless mass ("The trouble with this country," said our interpreter, "is that nobody wants to work") they have realised that, if perestroika and glasnost are ever to be more than empty words, their school system (among other things) is going to need a colossal shake-up.

"I should say that the system of education, like everything else in this country, is breaking down," said Asya. "Nobody talks about building Communism any more. You can say anything you like about Capitalist exploitation, but when you have too little to eat under Socialism,

all other questions disappear."

At the moment, in academic terms, the Russians have two sorts of "special" schools. The first are language schools which offer extra classes, in say, English or French, to children from the age of six or seven onwards when Soviet youngsters start school. They cover only two or three per cent of the school population — there are none, for example, in towns like Zagorsk, with 100,000 inhabitants — and have come under scathing public attack for being a preserve of the Communist elite and the intelligentsia.

As the Minister of Education, Gennadi Yagodin, put it to me: "They're said to specialise not only in the study of languages, but also in the sons and daughters of high position officials." There is no doubt that parents of power and influence use all kinds

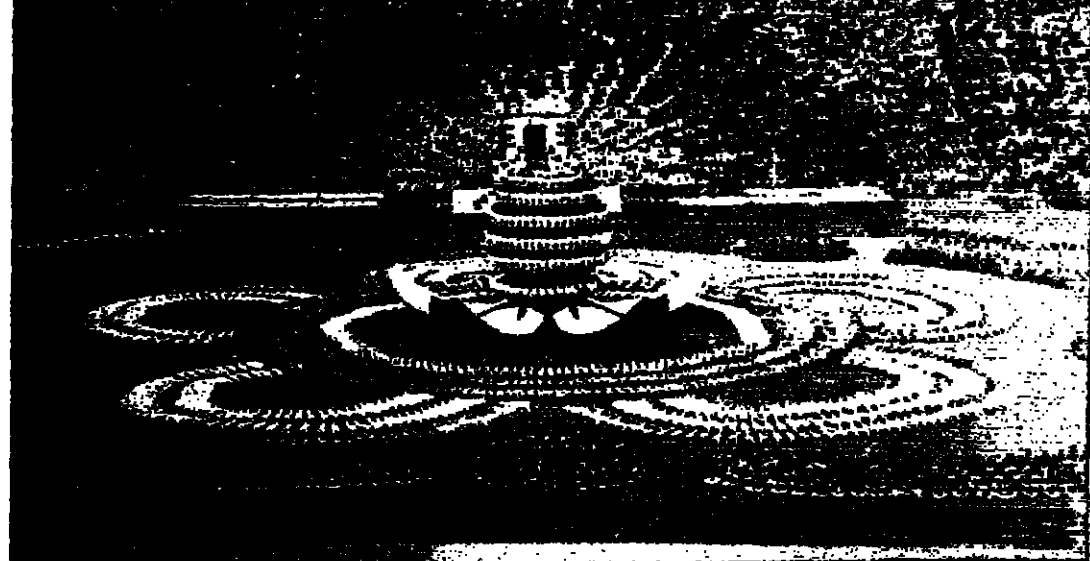
of leverage to get their children into these schools. If the family's name and connections are not enough — given that the Soviet health service is hardly the world's best, every school principal likes to know a friendly doctor — a variety of bribes can be deployed. These range all the way from French perfume to a holiday on the Black Sea.

Yet, although the facilities at the schools are usually better than average, they are not all that special — Grade I average instead of Grade II, according to one parent. Bright pupils are still held back by mixed ability teaching, and standards are so low compared with what is required for entry into a good university that they commonly have to take extra private tuition from the lectures of that university to help them bridge the gap.

The second kind of special school is one which majors in particular subjects — maths and physics, for example — from the age of 14 or 15 onwards. In the cities, they are day schools, but there are also boarding establishments — like the No 18, Special Maths and Physics Boarding School at Moscow University — where pupils of exceptional ability from the surrounding area are taught by university professors.

If the maths day school which I visited is any guide, what usually happens is that 40 new pupils arrive at the age of 15, and 30 or 40 who are not good enough to specialise in maths are shunted off to other places at the same time.

In a desperate effort to pep up this torpid system and give bright pupils the chance to move ahead, the regime has recently given individual schools a good deal more freedom to decide what sort of courses they will offer. They have been encouraged to specialise in a variety of subjects and to experiment in the way they pay their teachers, whose calibre is universally regarded as appalling. "At the moment," said Alexander Kutusov, who has just finished a study of Soviet schools "we have seven bad teachers for every good one." Although Mr Yagodin declares that he does not approve of special language schools, he became



A multitude of talents conform in the spectacular closing ceremony of the World Youth Festival

very irritated when I asked whether he therefore intended to abolish them. "No," he snapped. "No, no!" The regime has also allowed the setting up of a handful of co-operative — that is, private — kindergartens, which take children for three years and prepare them for the language schools.

Given that they cost more than the average Soviet salary — as much as 300 roubles a month (£284 at the official exchange rate, £19 at the unofficial black market rate) — they are clearly not intended for the sons and daughters of the proletariat.

Reversal

All of which represents a tremendous reversal from the Stalinist era, when so many clever and intelligent people were either murdered or deported. Gorbachev and his colleagues have witnessed the fruits of Lenin's dictum that a cook ought to be able to run the State, and decided that they want no more of it.

It is easy to see just how far change has gone by visiting some of Moscow's liveliest schools. "Now," said Larissa Vasilchenko, the charming headmistress of Special Language School No. 84, "we are trying to avoid the disease of the average, aim for excellence and give encouragement to the clever."

Stalin, I said, had buried them. "Yes," retorted the head of the

English department, "and now we are un-burying them!"

For the first time this year, the school has started offering its brighter pupils a variety of extra lessons in a whole range of subjects. True, they are all in the afternoon when normal school is over, so the clever still have to work overtime to get an education which more nearly fits their ability, but at least the chance is there.

The school also has permission now to bring in university lecturers to teach children whose parents want them to have extra knowledge, though they will have to pay for the privilege.

Wasn't that, though, a terrible commentary on the quality of its own staff? Unfortunately replied Miss Vasilchenko diplomatically, there were quite a number of poor teachers in the system. One way of weeding out the bad ones, in her view, is to pay them by results instead of giving good and bad alike the same salary. The Soviet average is 230 roubles a month (£213, or a mere £20 at the black market exchange rate).

That, she said, was why they were taking part in an experiment with five other schools in the district, in which school councils with the help of visiting economists would pay teachers on the basis of their actual contribution to the school. It ought, said Miss Vasil-

chenko briskly, to make everybody work properly.

Even more radical changes are taking place at School No. 147, an "ordinary" establishment where 70 per cent of pupils come from working class homes.

There, the principal, Lyda Sergeyeva, is not only introducing free-paying language classes, she is actually abolishing mixed ability teaching in the first year and dividing pupils into A, B and C streams.

She said: "I have always been against the principle of pupils studying in the same group whatever their abilities, because I could see that, within a few years, they became one big grey mass. That system holds back the best children — I've seen very talented boys and girls lose their abilities because the teaching was directed towards the average, and it didn't help the least clever either."

"My experience tells me that you have to teach different children in different ways, and not to go against the grain of their natural abilities."

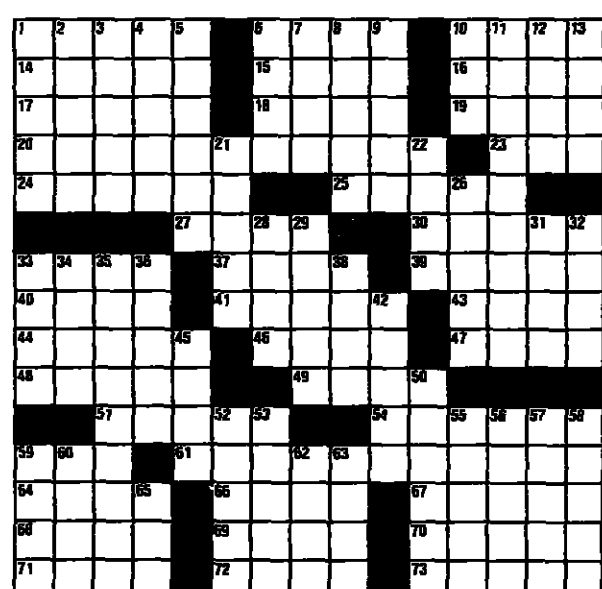
If she has her way, she will eventually extend streaming to the whole school. It sounded, I said, as if the ice-flows of ideology were breaking up at last.

"The cracks are only appearing very slowly," she replied. "but changes are absolutely essential if perestroika is to work."



Toeing the line...to make everyone equal. But it's a system that could stifle potential talent in this skiing class on the Lenin Hills in Moscow.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Tyson or Ali
 - 6 Go, to the dogs
 - 10 Heron relative
 - 14 Grapevine item
 - 15 Pretentious
 - 16 Baseball hit
 - 17 Lady friend, in Oviedo
 - 18 Counterweight
 - 19 "The — and Future King"
 - 20 Brooklyn amusement park
 - 23 Snooze
 - 24 German gold coin of old
 - 25 Humdinger
 - 27 Scratch
 - 30 Group spirit
 - 33 Initiate
 - 37 Argued in court
 - 39 Rainbow or brook
 - 40 Baron
 - 41 Munchausen, for one
 - 41 Clan emblem
 - 43 — facto
 - 44 Wall decoration
 - 46 Lugosi
 - 47 On the Coral
 - 48 Gear parts
 - 49 Indian prince
 - 51 Baked in Boston?
 - 54 Lots
 - 59 Measure, in music
 - 61 Cheese dish
 - 64 Seaweed product
 - 66 Farewell, to Cicero
 - 67 Raccoon relative
 - 68 Peter, Paul and Mary, e.g.
 - 69 Perpetually
 - 70 — alla
 - 71 Bag, bill or
- DOWN**
- 21 Cliff, Quebec
 - 22 Quip
 - 23 Mood
 - 24 Certain acid
 - 25 — David, symbol of Judaism
 - 26 Entreaty
 - 27 Willander of tennis
 - 28 Range between Europe and Asia
 - 29 Valuable violin, for short
 - 30 "Laughing" carnivore
 - 31 W. African tribe
 - 32 Paces for
 - 33 Down?
 - 34 Peruvian
 - 35 Degree
 - 36 Unskilful
 - 37 Forno dessert
 - 38 Narrow furrow
 - 39 Messy one
 - 40 Beatrix Potter character
 - 41 Yorkshire river
 - 42 Portico
 - 43 City on the Gulf of Agaba
 - 44 Shiny fabric
 - 45 Filibbertigibbet
 - 46 Recite
 - 47 Oscar — Renta
 - 48 Kind of league
 - 49 Part of GBS
 - 50 Woody plant
 - 51 By no means
 - 52 Drudge
 - 53 Black wood
 - 54 Decrease
 - 55 Salspeter
 - 56 Kindles
 - 57 Word with salts or sheet
 - 58 Home of the Taj Mahal
 - 59 Coaster
 - 60 Hoagy's cousin
 - 61 Fishing need

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BLOC SPORT SPAS
LOLA PELEE ELLE
IMAM OREAD PATE
TAVERN OPERATOR
RASP SUER
ROTATORS MOANED
EVA ARIES STOLE
PULP SORAS EMIT
ELLAS RELEE ETE
GEYSER SEASONER
TEAS SPAR
ATROPINE OUNCES
MOOR NITER ALSO
OLLA EPACK TATA
SEILL DELOS EWER

GOREN BRIDGE

By Charles Goren and Omar Sharif

RUBBER AND DUPLICATE—TWO DIFFERENT GAMES!

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

K 9

K 7 6 5

3

Q 10 9 7 4 2

WEST

6

Q J 8 4

K J 9 8 5

J 8 5

EAST

J 8 7 2

A 10 9 3 2

A Q 10

6

SOUTH

A Q 10 5 4 3

Void

7 6 4 2

A K 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1 Pass 1 NT Pass

2 Pass 3 Pass

4 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

There can be great difference in

technique between a pairs tournament

and rubber bridge. Cover the

East-West hands and, as South, de-

cide how you would play the hand at

both forms of the game.

Since South's spade rebid guaran-

tees a six-card suit, North's invita-

tional raise should be automatic.

South has a little in reserve for his

bid of four spades, but not enough

to do anything more. Note that six clubs, impossible to get to, is a pretty good contract.

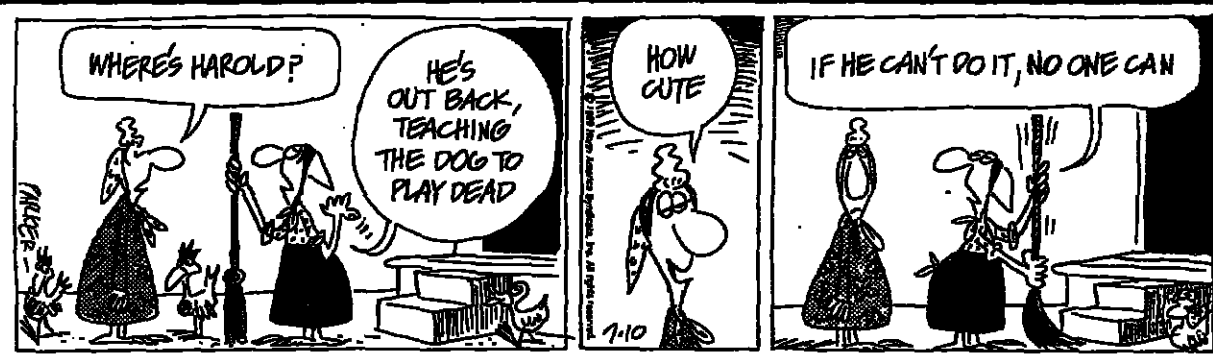
Assume that you are playing in a pairs competition. You ruff the opening heart lead and decide that most of your fellow competitors also will be in four spades. Therefore, you should follow the percentage line in an effort to take as many tricks as possible. Ruff the opening heart lead and cash two rounds of trumps. Unfortunately, West shows out on the second round and a perfectly sound game bites the dust.

Playing rubber bridge, before you do anything else you must determine what poses a risk to your contract. Here, obviously, the major threat comes from a 4-1 trump break. How can you neutralize that? Simple enough.

At trick two, lead a trump from hand and insert the table's nine! Even if the cards lie as in the diagram, you are safe. The best East can do when he wins the jack is, say, shift to a club. You win in hand, draw the three outstanding trumps by starting with the ace from hand, and then run the clubs. You will collect five spade tricks and six clubs for a well-deserved overtrick.

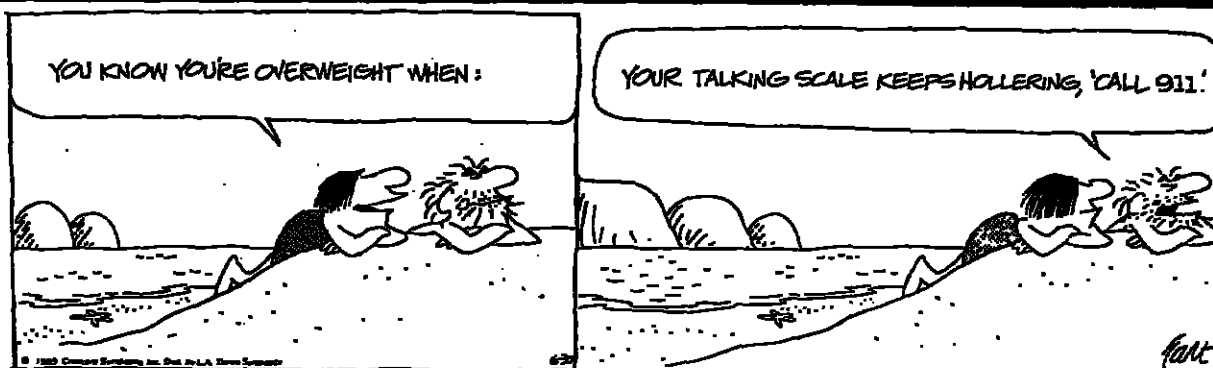
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Everything will take far longer than you thought it would and you will not get as much done as you had hoped. Avoid spending more than you had intended. Think less about yourself. Be careful.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be able to employ a labour saving device and should do so. Make sure you do not delay what should be done now. Repairs too should not be delayed. Be generous.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will not get on as well with others as you would like. Make sure you are not headstrong and that you give as well as take. Avoid eating and, even more important, drinking more than you should. Be candid.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You have been trying to learn will suddenly click. You will have to come to terms with a situation you do not like at all. Show a little respect for your elders. Be reasonable.

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You will tend to mislay things and should try to forestall the tendency. Avoid postponing what you know should be done now. Make sure you do not get into debt. Be polite.

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will find it more difficult to concentrate but you should make an extra effort to do so. Take a little more exercise — nothing too strenuous. Do not "fall" for a get rich quick scheme. Be observant.

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

Things are not what they seem so do look a little below the surface. Take slightly better care of your personal hygiene. And eat a little more fruit. Be punctual.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Not everything will be quite to your liking but you will know how to make the best of things. Some small infection should not be neglected. Take even more care than usual when on the road. Be sincere.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will have some difficulties coming to grips with a new device, but if you persevere you will in the end. You should welcome change instead of resisting it. Make sure you do not let something told to you in confidence slip out. Be fair.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Make sure you do not get into other people's way. You should not do anything that would embarrass someone close to you. Your lucky numbers are 43 and 53. Take a bit more care about your personal appearance. Be less loquacious.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You will be able to do something you thoroughly enjoy doing, but do not neglect what has to be done. And do not try to avoid your responsibilities. Show a little more gratitude. Be precise.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will have some difficulties coming to grips with a new device, but if you persevere you will in the end. You should welcome change instead of resisting it. Make sure you do not let something told to you in confidence slip out. Be fair.



"Your resume says you spent 'fore years at collej."

Kirienko beats Koniusz for sabre gold

DENVER, Colo., July 9, (Reuters): Soviet fencer Grigory Kirienko squandered a big lead but gathered himself in time to outscore Jaroslav Koniusz of Poland 10-7 and win the sabre gold medal at the World Fencing Championships yesterday.

Kirienko, a 24-year-old lieutenant in the Soviet Army, led by 7-3 but Koniusz drew

level to threaten an upset.

"I had to calm myself down from thinking so cockily that I could beat anyone," said Kirienko, who added he was "a little overconfident," following his triumph last spring in Italy's Franco Luxardo Trophy, the prestigious sabre event.

Koniusz, 24, said he entered the final

with the opposite outlook. "I went in with kind of a complex, not thinking I stood much of a chance. I just wanted to make a couple of good touches to look good."

"Then, all of a sudden, I decided to take the risk at 7-3 and go for it all. But I sort of ran out of gas at 7-7. Kirienko is just a better sabre man."

The bronze medal went to Felix Becker of West Germany, who demolished Csaba Kovacs of Hungary 10-4.

The other finalists in order of their finish were: Gyorgy Nebald, Hungary; Vassil Etropolski, Bulgaria; Ulrich Eifler, West Germany and Peter Westbrook of the United States.

Argentina edge past Uruguay

Chile take Bolivia to task

GOIANIA, Brazil, July 9, (AP): Argentina's national soccer team edged Uruguay 1-0 and Chile routed Bolivia 5-0 yesterday in the South American soccer championship.

Argentina's victory in the America Cup tournament lifted the squad into first place in Group B and clinched a berth in the cup semifinals next week in Recife.

Chile rebounding from a bruising 3-0 defeat Thursday to Paraguay, now has two points and can qualify for the semifinals only if it defeats Ecuador by four goals today.

Ecuador and Uruguay are now tied for second in Group B with four points.

Both teams struggled to gain control at midfield at the start of the game, marking tightly and looking for chances to counter-attack.

Argentina had the first scoring chance in the 10th minute when superstar striker Diego Maradona threaded a pass between two defenders to fullback Oscar Ruggeri, who let fly a sizzling shot that goalie Javier Zeoli blocked.

Argentina, a heavy tournament favorite, suffered a blow when Ruggeri was expelled from play for fouling striker Enzo Francescoli in the 17th minute.

But the squad held tight on



Uruguay's Jose Perdomo commits a foul on Maradona. (Reuters wirephoto)

defence, which paid off when the counter-attack fell into place in the second half.

At 22 minutes of the second half, Argentine replacement striker Claudio Caniggia took a feed from Maradona down the left sideline and rifled in the winning shot.

Earlier, Chile easily handled Bolivia, 5-0.

The Chileans came out firing from the start, using a quick touch, counter-attack offence

that confused Bolivia's defenders and caused havoc for Bolivian goalie Marco Barrero.

In the 11th minute, midfielder Alejandro Hiris penetrated the Bolivian defence and fed teammate Juvenal Olmos, who spun past a defender and blasted a cannon shot beating Barrero to his right for a 1-0 lead.

Soon after, striker Jaime Ramirez eluded defender Raimar Rimba on a counterattack and fired a low bullet from the top of

the penalty area that beat Barrero to the short side, making it 2-0.

In the second half, Chile made it 3-0 at 54 minutes when Fernando Astengo outjumped Barrero and several defenders in front of the goal and headed a cornerkick into the empty net.

In the 68th minute, Ramirez took the ball at midfield, weaved between several defenders and burst in one-on-one against Barrero. The goalie came sliding

out of the net and tripped Ramirez, prompting a penalty shot.

Midfielder Jaime Pizarro converted the free kick for a 4-0 lead.

Chile added its fifth goal at 87 minutes when fullback Patricio Reyes took the ball alone at the top right corner of the penalty area and launched a bullet into the short side of the net.

Meanwhile, officials says yesterday that two of Paraguay's best soccer players could be suspended for taking a cold remedy before playing in the South American Championships.

Marcos Teixeira, president of the tournament's medical commission, said in a televised interview yesterday that striker Gustavo Neffa and fullback Juan Torres took a cold remedy known as "Efedrina," which contains stimulants prohibited by medical authorities, before Friday's game against Venezuela.

Neffa, a 17-year-old striker who has shined during the 10-nation America Cup tournament, and Torres could be suspended from future competitions, including next month's World Cup qualifying games.

Neffa and Torres tested positive in a randomly given antidoping exam following Paraguay's 3-0 victory over the Venezuelan national team, he said.

Knox, Levi and Grady share lead

CROMWELL, Conn., July 9, (Reuters): Kenny Knox had a brief, fling as sole leader but found himself once again with plenty of company at the top yesterday after three rounds of the Greater Hartford Open golf tournament.

Knox, part of the leading trio after the opening round, was sole leader overnight before finishing 54 holes knotted with Australian Wayne Grady and Wayne Levi at 12-under-par 213.

Knox shot 69, while Levi zoomed up the ladder with a seven-under-par 64 and Grady grabbed his share of the lead after a 65.

Mark Calcavecchia, Paul Azinger and Bill Britton were tied just one stroke back, with four more golfers standing another shot away going into today's final 18 holes.

Grady, the winner of last month's Westchester Classic, followed earlier rounds of 65 and 67 with a bogey-free tour of the TPC of Connecticut layout firing six birdies on his way.

"I'm very happy with my round," Grady said. "I was four-under on the front nine which was about as bad as I could have been. I hit it so close at the start. It was an easy 65 today."

Knox, who entered the round with a one-shot lead, birdied the third hole from 40 feet away, but that was negated by a bogey on number six. After three birdies on the back nine, a bogey on 17 brought him back into a tie.

"Today, patience was definitely the key," Knox said. "I'm proud that I've had three straight rounds (65-67-69) in the 60s. You can do well on tour with that."

Among the leading group, Levi overcame the most adversity.

"I bet I've had eight hours sleep in the last three days," Levi said. "My 14-month-old son has had a virus and it's kept us awake at night."

Mugabi wins super-welter crown



Jacquot (centre) grimaces in pain while a doctor checks his ankle. (Reuters wirephoto)

MIRAPOLIS, France, July 9, (Reuters): Ugandan John Mugabi took the World Boxing Council (WBC) super-welterweight crown from Frenchman Rene Jacquot in bizarre fashion yesterday.

Jacquot walked into a right hook two minutes into the first round and collapsed in agony, clutching his left ankle. The champion, making his first defence since he outpointed American Don Curry in February, stood up but went down again within seconds.

"Faced the confusion, joint promoter Michel Aeris said the official verdict was that the bout had been stopped.

The extent of the injury was not immediately clear but a ringside doctor suggested Jacquot had pulled a tendon and broken a bone in his foot.

The outcome stunned the 12,000 partisan spectators into silence, and arguments soon began as to how the accident happened. The most popular theory was that Jacquot twisted his ankle as he fell.

Mugabi, a professional for nine years, has lost only two of his 35 bouts, both of them world title challenges against Marvin Hagler at middleweight and Duane Thomas at super-welterweight.

It was Jacquot's 10th defeat in 34 outings. In an interview with French television, Mugabi said he was proud of the victory.

"I am the champion. I'm proud of the victory, it was not just luck," he said.

But Mugabi cornerman Terry Lawless of Britain considered the fight an anti-climax. "People have paid their money and the boxers have trained hard. It's a shame," Lawless added.

Jacquot's manager Jacques Dufrenoy told Reuters he would appeal to the WBC against Mugabi's victory.

England's W.Indies tour to go ahead

ST GEORGES, Grenada, July 9, (Reuters): The way was left clear for England's cricket tour of the West Indies to go ahead early next year following a meeting here this week of Caribbean community leaders.

Caricom agreed to support the International Cricket Conference (ICC) policy on South Africa, but did not make reference to a proposal that would have put the tour in jeopardy.

Caricom said in a statement that the organisation pledged its support for a ban of up to five years on cricketers who coach or play in South Africa after April 1, 1989. The ban was fashioned by West Indies and approved by the ICC at a special meeting on the

South African issue last January.

But the statement made no mention of a recommendation by Caricom member Trinidad and Tobago that the organisation allow into the West Indies only cricketers whose names were not on a United Nations apartheid blacklist.

England's touring team might contain players on the list for their involvement in South Africa, so if the recommendation had been passed the tour could have been at risk.

The Caricom statement said: "The heads of government (meeting at the summit) pledged their support for the ICC resolution, agreed to maintain their vigilance against sporting contact with South Africa and look forward to increased co-operation

with the rest of the international community in helping by this and other means to bring apartheid to an end."

A newspaper, however, said yesterday that players who were blacklisted by the United Nations will be banned from entering Guyana.

The independent newspaper Starbrook News quoted Prime Minister Hamilton Green as saying that Guyana adheres to an ICC resolution banning cricketers who played in South Africa from performing in member countries for up to five years.

The Guyana leg of England's cricket team's 1981 tour of the Caribbean was cancelled after the government discovered that all-rounder Robin Jackman had played in South Africa.



Robin Jackman

Several Guyanese cricketers, including star Alvin Kalicharran, have been banned for life from playing for their country after having played in South Africa.

Marshall and Connor run through Northamptonshire

LONDON, July 9, (Reuters): West Indies Test veteran Malcolm Marshall, well supported by Cardigan Connor, dented Northamptonshire's hopes of regaining leadership of the English County Cricket Championship yesterday.

The Hampshire fast bowlers made good use of a green pitch and gloomy conditions to dismiss Northamptonshire for 166 in their first innings.

Barbadian Marshall and Anguilla-born Connor took four for 20 and three for 59 respectively after the hosts were put in.

Only opener Geoff Cook found an answer, batting his way to 53 in three and a half hours, though Windward Islander Winston Davis crashed a late 40 not out.

Hampshire were 83 for two in

reply when bad light ended play early.

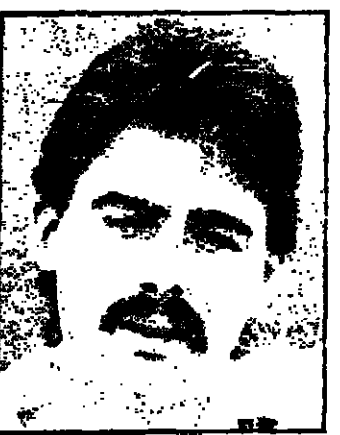
Warwickshire pacemen Gladstone Small and Tim Munton reduced Northamptonshire to 52 for five in another weather-hit match. England discard Chris Broad was among the victims.

Openers Tony Wright and Ian Butcher fared rather better after Kent sent in Gloucestershire. Tony Wright hit 88 and Ian Butcher 82 in an unbroken stand of 197.

Captain Ian Greig rescued Surrey after they slumped to 33 for four against Somerset. He made 62 not out in a first innings score of 143 for eight.

Somerset seamer Adrian Jones caused the early collapse with three for four in a 15-ball spell.

Desmond Haynes, scorer of more than 500 Test runs for the



Tony Wright

West Indies on their winter tour of Australia, collected his third successive duck for Middlesex against Derbyshire. The Barbadian opener bagged a pair



Ian Butcher

against Lancashire last week. Glamorgan seamers Steve Watkins and Steve Barwick exploited a greenish pitch and humid conditions to reduce

leaders Essex to 101 for eight after a rain-delayed start at Swansea.

Watkin, the country's leading wicket-taker, snapped up three for 24 in his 12-over opening spell before Mark Waugh and Paul Prichard shared a fourth-wicket stand of 48.

Barwick caused another slump, taking three for 31, before Watkins returned to add a further victim and finish with four for 39.

Scores

At Maidstone: Gloucestershire 187 for no wicket off 71.4 overs. (A. Wright 88 not out, I. Butcher 82 not out) v Kent.

At Guildford: Surrey 143 for eight off 69 overs (I. Greig 62 not out) v Somerset.

At Lord's: Middlesex 152 for five off 45 overs (R. Roseberry 49) v Derbyshire.



Players of both Mets and Reds teams brawl during the game. (Reuters wirephoto)

New York and Cincinnati brawl during game

Mets brush aside Reds

NEW YORK, July 9, (AP): New York Mets infielder Tim Lincecum had four hits before being hit with a pitch that led to a brawl yesterday, and Darryl Strawberry had a two-run homer to lead the New York Mets past the Cincinnati Reds 8-3.

Cincinnati reliever Rob Dibble hit Lincecum in the back with a pitch in the eighth inning. Dibble walked off mound and Lincecum started out toward him. Lincecum then threw several punches as both benches scrambled onto the field.

"He threw right at me," Lincecum said. "There's no need for that. He's not so good that he can't give up a run."

After order was restored, the benches cleared again as the players wrestled near the mound. Dibble, Lincecum, New York's Juan Samuel and Cincinnati's Norm Charlton were ejected.

Dibble denied he was throwing at Lincecum although Cincinnati manager Pete Rose admitted being unhappy that the Mets were stealing bases with a big lead.

"I don't need to send messages," Dibble said. "I went out there to get some work. I've already been fined enough."

"That's just rubbing it in," Rose said. "Davey Johnson and I are from the same school. If

you're stealing at that point, you should expect to get knocked down."

Astros 3, Expos 2

A single by Rafael Ramirez broke a 2-2 tie in the seventh inning as Houston snapped the Montreal Expos' eight-game winning streak at the Astrodome and gave the Astros their 23rd one-run victory.

Terry Puhl started the inning with a double down the right field line against Andy McGaffigan, 1-4, and moved to third on a grounder before Ramirez bounced his run-scoring hit up the middle through a drawn-in infield.

Dodgers 8, Cubs 2

Eddie Murray hit a three-run homer and Alfredo Griffin and Willie Randolph each drove in two runs to lead the Los Angeles Dodgers over the Chicago Cubs.

The Dodgers snapped their five-game losing streak and ended Chicago's four-game winning streak.

Standings

National League East Division

Montreal 48 38 558 -11-2

Chicago 46 39 541 -11-2

New York 44 39 530 21-2

St. Louis 43 39 524 3

Pittsburgh 36 46 439 10

Philadelphia 31 52 373 151-2

West Division

San Fran. 51 35 593 -

Houston 49 37 570 2

Cincinnati 44 42 512 7

San Diego 41 46 471 101-2

Los Angeles 40 46 465 11

Atlanta 36 50 419 15

Yesterday's games

New York 8 Cincinnati 3

New York 43 42 506

Los Angeles 8 Chicago 0

San Diego 2 Pittsburgh 0

Atlanta 8 St. Louis 5

American League East Division

Baltimore 48 36 571

New York 43 42 506

Boston 40 42 488 7

Milwaukee 41 45 477 8

Toronto 41 45 477 8

Cleveland 40 44 476

Detroit 31 53 369 17

West Division

California 51 33 607

Oakland 51 36 586

Kansas City 48 37 565

Texas 47 38 553

Seattle 41 44 482

Minnesota 41 45 477

Chicago 32 55 368 201-2

Yesterday's games

New York 7 Boston 5

Texas 5 Oakland 4

California 4 Minnesota 1

Toronto 8 Detroit 4

Kansas City 4 Chicago 3

Baltimore 5 Milwaukee 2

Seattle 4 Cleveland 3

Arabs to face tough opposition in Spain

NO less than 350 teams have entered for the Baja Aragon Raid in Spain which takes place July 20-23. Qatari ace Abbas Al Mousawi and his Saudi team mate Mamdouh Khayat driving for the Maribou Mitsubishi Team, will represent the Arab world in this major motorsport event.

Firm favourites are the Peugeot Talot sport team with their ultra competitive Peugeot Talbot 405's. Their line up includes ex-world champion Ari Vatanen, former world sports car champion Jacky Ickx and ex-European rally champion Andrea Zanussi. Factory supported teams from Nissan and Mitsubishi will also contest this Spanish Classic.

"It is like a dream come true to race against Vatanen who has inspired me since entering the sport," said Al Mousawi, winner of the 1988 Marlboro Desert

Challenge.

Both Gulf drivers will pilot the kevlar carbon bodied version of the long-wheel-base Pajero fitted with 250 bhp engines. The Mitsubishi Ralliart Team have dominated Middle East 4x4 rallying with these vehicles in recent years.

"The Pajero can match all the other vehicles except the Peugeots, said Khayat from home in Jeddah. "They have got double the power of our vehicles."

It has been a disappointing summer of Arab competitor's in European rallies. Middle East champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem retired in Yugoslavia and Turkey with mechanical problems. His countryman Ahmed Bin Khalifa also retired in the recent Scottish Rally in a Group N Mitsubishi Galant.



Mamdouh Khayat with his vehicle.

Ryan takes gymnastics gold

BLOOMINGTON, Minnesota, July 9, (AP): Stanford's Tim Ryan became the youngest US men's gymnastics all-around champion in 14 years yesterday after putting together six strong optional routines to edge out 1988 Olympian Lance Ringnald at the US Gymnastics Championships.

Ryan, 18, who will be a sophomore at Stanford, put together an optional round score of 56.80, or 45.44 when adjusted for the 40 per cent the optionals count for the all-around title. With his score in Friday's compulsory, which count for 60 per cent, his total adjusted score was 112.22.

SPORTS

Galaxy defeats Moon

BANGKOK, Thailand, July 9. (AP): Thailand's Khaokor Galaxy unleashed frequent barrages of powerful punches to score a unanimous decision today over Moon Sung-Kil of South Korea and recapture the World Boxing Association bantamweight crown.

In what was billed as the "Battle of Revenge" for Galaxy, the Thai punished the stubborn champion over 12 rounds but could not knock him out.

The judges scored the bout 120-109, 120-109 and 119-112 in favour of Galaxy who had lost the world title to Moon in a controversial bout last August in Seoul, South Korea.

Only Moon's stamina and determination seemed to stand in the way of a knockout for Galaxy, who floored the South Korean in the 11th round. But Moon struggled to his feet and managed to survive.

The victory was the 23rd for Galaxy, 29, against last year's loss to the 25-year-old Moon. The South Korean's record now stands at nine wins and one loss. Khaokor's twin brother, Khaosai, holds the world junior bantamweight crown.

The bout at Bangkok's Rajdamnern Stadium fight started with both fighters exchanging hard punches, but by the second round it became apparent that Galaxy would dominate.

After opening a cut near Moon's right eye, Galaxy methodically peppered the South Korean with jabs and hooks. In the fifth, sixth and seventh rounds, the Thai appeared on the verge of taking Moon out with a succession of powerful, rapid-fire bursts.

SPORTS BRIEFS

N.Korea win

TOKYO, July 9. (AP): North Korea beat Indonesia 2-1 today in an East Asia Group six World Cup soccer qualifying match in Pyongyang and advanced to the second round. Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency reported.

American Cup

CALGARY, Alberta, July 9. (AP): Lisa Jacquin of Arizona beat Hap Hansen of California in a jumpoff yesterday to win the \$40,000 CIBC North American Cup at the North American Equestrian Championships.

E.German swimmer

VIENNA, July 9. (UPI): East German swimmer Christiane Knacke, winner of the bronze medal at the Moscow Games, said in an interview, published today that she was forced to take anabolic steroids while on the East German Olympic swim team.

Training camp

KUWAIT, July 9. (KUNA): The Kuwait National Athletics team left here today for Frankfurt to attend a training camp. The training camp will prepare the Kuwaiti athletics for the sixth Arab Track and Field meeting, which will take place during first week of October in Egypt in addition to the Friendship and Peace Championship to be hosted by Kuwait in the second half of the same month.

Breast cancer

SYLVANIA, Ohio, July 9. (AP): Heather Farr, a member of the LPGA Tour for the past four years, will miss the remainder of the 1989 season after learning today that she has breast cancer. The 24-year-old Farr is scheduled to undergo surgery July 17 at Cedars-Sinai hospital in Los Angeles.

Yonex Open

HIGASHI Hiroshima, Japan, July 9. (AP): Overnight leader Masashi Ozaki today started with a birdie and finished with a 66 to win the 60-million-yen (\$429,000) Yonex Open Hiroshima Golf Tournament.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hubara Bridge Club game played on Saturday:

- N/S
1. Mrs Moneali & Ahmed Tawil
2. Nahil Akel & Narendra Shah
3. Aswara & Gajjar
E/W
1. Mrs Pereira & Mrs D'Souza
2. Sherin & El Raz
3. Ezzeldin & Abedin
Results of marathon bridge game held at the Sheraton Hotel on Friday:
1. Chandhry & Simoo
2. Sherin & Bayoumi
3. Tiab & Heneidi

Becker and Graf take Wimbledon titles

Navratilova fails to break Moody's 51-year-old record



Graf screams with joy after beating Navratilova. (Reuter wirephoto)



Boris Becker raises his arm in victory. (Reuter wirephoto)

WIMBLEDON, England, July 9. (UPI): Boris Becker recaptured the men's singles crown from Stefan Edberg today and Steffi Graf retained the women's title against Martina Navratilova to provide West Germany with a rare double triumph at the \$5.3 million Wimbledon tennis championships.

Becker, champion in 1985 and 1986, avenged last year's defeat against the Swede with a 6-0, 7-6, (7-1), 6-4 victory which took 2 hours 12 minutes and earned him \$292,600.

Earlier on centre court, Graf outlasted Navratilova 6-2, 6-7 (1-6), 6-1, depriving the Czechoslovak-born American of a record ninth Wimbledon singles title.

Becker, 21, signalled his triumph by hurling his racket into the crowd—about the only time it had failed to connect with the ball in a pulsating 2 hours 12 minute performance.

Becker showed now signs of tiredness from yesterday's rain-hit five-set semifinal against Ivan Lendl, which had caused the women's final to be postponed 24 hours.

The German, who became the youngest player to win the title three times, was in command from the start against the second-seeded Swede.

Big-hitting Becker blitzed the defending champion in an opening set, conceding only 10 points in 22 minutes of high-powered tennis.

The 23-year-old Swede rallied, however, and seemed certain to level the match when serving for the second set at 6-5, 40-love. But Becker responded with a battery of blistering backhands to take the set and force a tie-break.

Edberg took Becker's opening service point, but the West German took off on another unstoppable roll by reaching off the next seven points to snatch the set.

At this stage, the brilliant Becker had won 12 of the last 13 points and was in irresistible form.

Edberg had three break points in, but failed to capitalise. The final nail in Edberg's coffin came in the ninth game when he doublefaulted on game point. Becker then served it out to 30, forcing Edberg into setting a backhand service return to reach match point and then wrapping it up with a service winner to the Swede's forehand.

The German celebrated his third Wimbledon title in five years by raising his right index finger high into the air leaving the packed centre court in no doubt that he believes his is now the World No 1.

Becker's victory acknowledgment today contrasted to Graf's reaction after retaining the crown she first won when ending Navratilova's six-year reign in last year's final.

The 20-year-old West German won the last five games of the one-hour, 32-minute match and finished with her fifth ace. Then she went to her court-side chair and cried for joy.

The tears quickly turned to smiles as Graf held aloft the silver trophy for the second time and the centre court crowd cheered and clapped. She then paraded the big silver plate around the court, showing it to the fans.

Navratilova, who yearned to win the title one more time, stood by respectfully, watching Graf's moment of triumph.

It was the West German's seventh Grand Slam tournament title in a year and a half. She won the Australian Open last January and the four majors in 1988 when she became only the fifth player in history to achieve the Grand Slam in the same calendar year.

After dominating the first set and being pegged back in the second, Graf moved up a gear to kill off Navratilova's challenge.

The key game in the final set was the fourth, when Navratilova made three uncharacteristic volleying errors to drop her serve at love and trail 1-3.

She had one chance to break back in the next game but made another backhand error, this time sending her approach shot long.

Graf held for 4-1, and was on her way to another win over the American at an arena where Navratilova reigned supreme for almost a decade.



Becker lifts his trophy. (Reuter wirephoto)



Steffi Graf holds up the winner's trophy. (Reuter wirephoto)

Navratilova aims to keep trying

WIMBLEDON, England, July 9. (UPI): Martina Navratilova trained hard and hoped mightily to win her ninth Wimbledon single's title and break a 51-year-old record, but she could not overcome Steffi Graf's speed and power today.

It was their third successive Wimbledon final. Last year, No. 1 Graf ended the 32-year-old Czechoslovak-born American's six-year reign as Wimbledon champion.

Graf broke into tears, while Navratilova waved to a sympathetic centre court crowd and blew a kiss to coach Craig Kardon and friends Judy Nelson and Billie Jean King.

"I am disappointed because I didn't win, but I did everything that I could in my preparation and there isn't anything else that I wish I had done," said Navratilova. "Today was fun, I enjoyed the hell out of it."

"I don't know how much she believed she could win it," said Graf. "I wanted to win it so badly."

It was the 17th Wimbledon for Navratilova, who last year failed to win a Grand Slam singles title for the first time in eight years.

"I played the best I can today, but that isn't the best tennis I've ever played," she said. "I still think I can beat her on a great day."

Navratilova said she wasn't as quick at the

net as she needed to be.

"Steffi is the fastest player on the circuit. Age doesn't have much to do with it," said Navratilova. "I don't think I can ever be as fast as she is because of her legs and her foot speed... she's a sprinter. She's a track-and-field expert more or less, and I'm more of a ball player."

"She's just big and strong," said the 5-foot-7 1/2 Navratilova. "I may have to grow 3 inches to win this tournament."

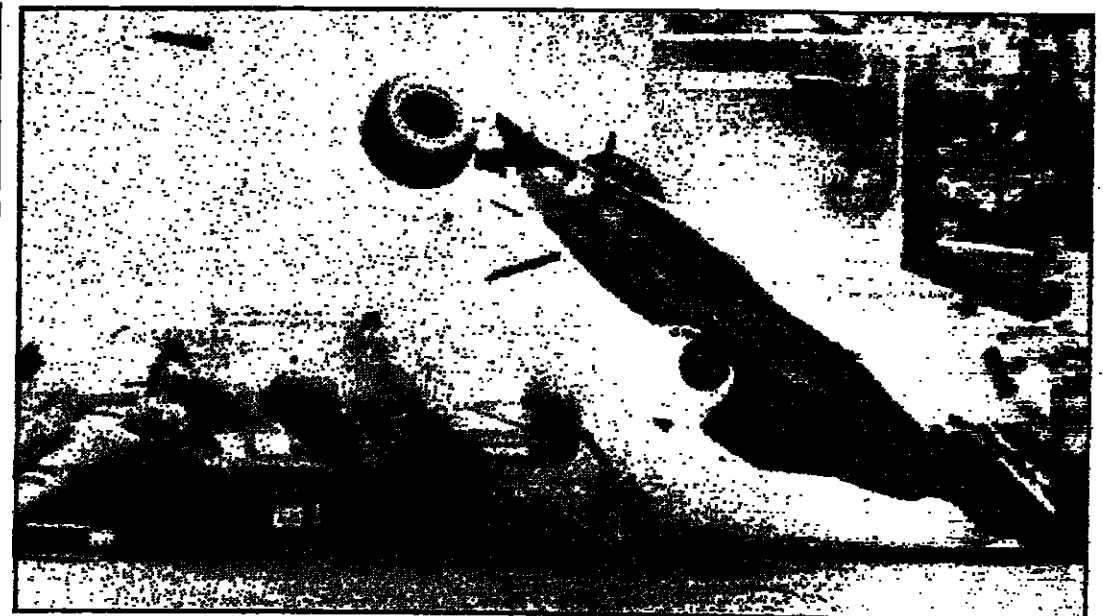
The No. 2 ranked player believes she will one day break American Helen Willis Moody's record of eight women's singles titles in 1938.

"I absolutely think I can win," Navratilova said.

"If you can get beat and hold your head high, which is what I'm doing, then keep doing it, maybe she won't play so great next year, maybe she won't even be there, maybe I won't be there, but I'll certainly be trying."

One of Navratilova's greatest rivals, Chris Evert, has said she does not expect to play at Wimbledon again.

"I may be jealous when she's home playing golf or skiing or whatever she'll be doing with (her husband) Andy—fishing—while I'm out here sweating and beating up or I'm getting beaten up on, depending on the day with the 15-year-olds," Navratilova said.



Driver escapes injury

Brazilian driver Mauricio Gugelmin's March flies into the air moments after the start of the French Grand Prix. Gugelmin's car collided with Austrian Gerhard Berger's car. Gugelmin was not hurt. (Reuter wirephoto)

Prost wins French Grand Prix

LE CASTELLET, France, July 9. (AP): Alain Prost of France won his fourth French Grand Prix today, leading from start to finish to cement his lead in the world drivers' standings.

Prost's McLaren Honda won by 44.017 seconds over Britain's Nigel Mansell in a Ferrari, with Italy's Riccardo Patrese third.

The 34-year-old Frenchman was timed in 1 hour, 38 minutes, 29.411 seconds over the 80 laps of the 3.813-kilometre (2.369 mile) Paul Ricard circuit in the

wooded countryside of southern France.

Jean Alesi, making his Grand Prix debut in a Tyrrell Ford, was fourth, with Sweden's Stefan Johansson, a pre-qualifier in an Onyx-Ford and France's Olivier Grouillard, driving a Ligier-Ford, fifth and sixth.

Two days earlier Prost announced he would be leaving the McLaren team in 1990. He has won two world titles with the team and is solidly in front with 38 points after seven races this

season.

Prost had no trouble winning the 37th Grand Prix of his career and 28th with McLaren. He grabbed the lead from the start and moved easily away.

By the 33rd lap he built up a 27-second lead over the Benetton-Ford of Alessandro Nannini. Prost was able to stop for a tyre change and still come out six seconds ahead.

Prost moved smoothly away as the challengers kept changing behind him.

England face tough battle for draw in third Test

BIRMINGHAM, England, July 9. (Reuter): England's cricketers, beset by injury, bad weather and buoyant Australian batsmen can at best hope for a draw when the third Test match resumes at Edgbaston tomorrow. Australia, at 391 for seven in their

first innings, could notch their third successive win of the series if they declare and bowl England out cheaply twice over the next two days.

"I still feel we have an outside chance with two days to go," Australian captain Allan Border said. "If we get just

over 400 and declare, England will be under a bit of pressure and we will be trying to force the follow-on. That is our only chance."

England captain David Gower said he was distraught. "We came here hoping that by now we could have got a

long way towards winning this match, but haven't had much chance to do it."

A fine innings of 141 not out by Dean Jones and a stubborn 40 not out from Trevor Hobbs frustrated England as much as the rain which has cut playing

time by more than half.

England, already without batsmen Allan Lamb and Robin Smith through injury and Mike Gatting because of a family bereavement, face a further top order reshuffle after news that Kim Barnett suffered a groin strain while

fielding yesterday.

"It's too early to say how bad it is," said Gower. "But if there is any reason he cannot bat, I will go in at number three with Chris Tavare at four. The original plan was for me to bat at four with Tavare at five."

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